

20-29 Years



MaryAnn Neunsinger-DeBoer  
Elementary  
21 Years  
1984-2005



Larry Smith  
Social Studies  
22 Years  
1990-present

Amy Schroeder  
Business  
22 Years  
1990-present



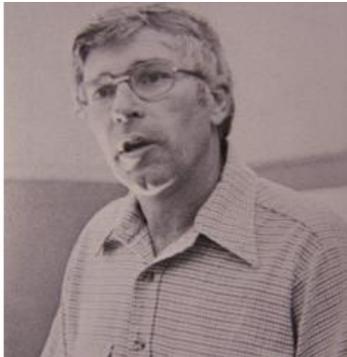
Rodney Leeseberg  
Elementary  
23 Years  
1981-2004



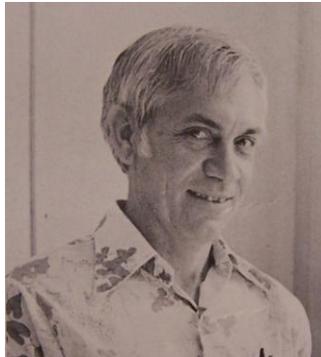
Opal Weiers  
Elementary  
24 Years  
1955-1979



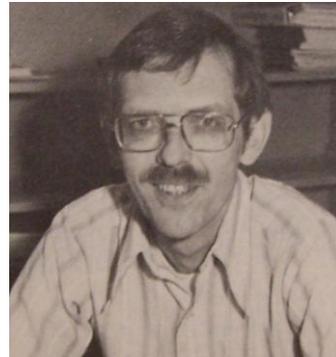
Jan Anderson-Kellner  
Home Economics  
25 Years  
1975-2000



Ed Bolton  
English  
25 Years  
1974-1999



Tracy Day  
Science  
25 Years  
1968-1993



Steven Egge  
Mathematics  
25 Years  
1981-2006



Jack Schroeder  
Elementary  
25 Years  
1987-present



Paul Schroeder  
Elementary  
25 Years  
1986-1990, 1991-present



Evelyn Buehner  
Elementary  
26 Years  
1955-1981



Pearl Burfiend-Olson  
Elementary  
26 Years  
1937-1942, 1956-1977



Ruth Haugland  
Business  
28 Years  
1962-1990



Mary Olander  
Elementary  
28 Years  
1947-1954, 1966-1985



Gary Anderson  
Industrial Technology  
29 Years  
1965-1994

## 30+ Years

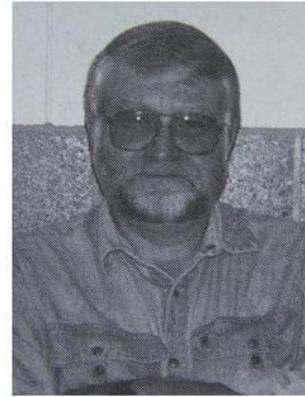


**William Maki**  
**30 Years**  
**1972-2002**

Mr. Maki earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in elementary education with a physical education minor from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minnesota in 1969. He earned his Master of Science Degree in elementary education from Bemidji State College (Bemidji State University), Bemidji, Minnesota in 1974.

Mr. Maki started his teaching career in Paynesville, Minnesota in 1969 as an

elementary teacher. He began teaching in Nevis in the fall of 1972. During his time at Nevis School, Mr. Maki taught sixth grade, Title I and served as the elementary principal. After retiring from teaching, Mr. Maki drove school bus for the district until retiring from education in 2010. Through his years of teaching at Nevis School, Mr. Maki saw several changes. Some of the most memorable were moving into the new school, seeing computers come into the school, and seeing the school grow from one-section to two-section after open enrollment was started.



**Louise Shay**  
**30+ Years**  
**1981-present**

Mrs. Shay earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Concordia College, St. Paul, Minnesota in 1970. She completed her EBD, LD, and vocational licenses at Bemidji State College, Bemidji, Minnesota. After graduating from college, Mrs. Shay worked at Fridley Medical Center as a receptionist, a pricer for Montgomery Wards and

finally a teacher aide at Nevis Public School starting in August 1978. In 1981, Mrs. Shay was hired at Nevis School as a special education teacher. During her tenure at Nevis, Mrs. Shay has advised twelve proms, one of them being an all-nighter with breakfast served the next morning. She served as a line judge in volleyball for twenty-two years, a class advisor every year, chair of the Continuous Education Improvement Committee, chair of the Staff Development Committee, chair of the State Curriculum Advisory Committee in St. Paul, Pam Lindow Scholarship Committee teacher representative and other areas.

The biggest changes she has seen over the years has been the class sizes, open enrollment, and moving into the new building. Her first graduating class where she was the advisor had nineteen students and the last one had forty-one. Moving into the new building was a big change as she doesn't miss the three flights of stairs, the old building, and lack of many of the current resources.





**Linda McMorrow**  
**30+ Years**  
**1981-present**

Mrs. McMorrow earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education K-6 with a concentration in art from Moorhead State College (Minnesota State University, Moorhead) in 1975. She started substitute teaching in South St. Paul after graduation. She then moved to Moorhead where she was the Title I teacher at Washington Elementary School. Mrs. McMorrow was hired at Nevis



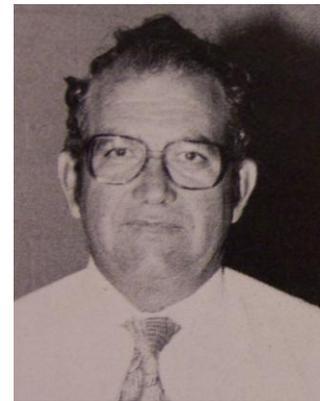
School as a long term kindergarten substitute teacher. At the end of the year, she was offered the position. In 1982, she worked part-time as kindergarten was offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In the late 1980s, kindergarten was split into two sections and she became full-time. She taught kindergarten for 17 years before becoming a third grade teacher in 1999.

Mrs. McMorrow noted many significant changes during her years at Nevis School. The first was the new building built in 1987. The second is the growth of technology where she went from no computers or VCRs to a student computer center and Smartboard right in her room. Third, class sizes have grown as the school grew from a single section school where she has had as few as 12 students in a class to a two-section school. Fourth, her third grade teaching partner, Mr. Paul Schroeder, was a senior in high school when she started. She said it is a strange feeling when you had a class of 5 year olds that are suddenly your teaching colleagues, but a funnier feeling when the children of your former students are students in your class.



**Craig Stanwick**  
**32 Years**  
**1967-1999**

Mr. Stanwick attended Waldorf Junior College, Forest City, Iowa and then transferred to South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota. He was drafted in to the Army from 1962-1965. After being honorably discharged, Mr. Stanwick returned to South Dakota State University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education and health and a minor in social studies in 1965. He



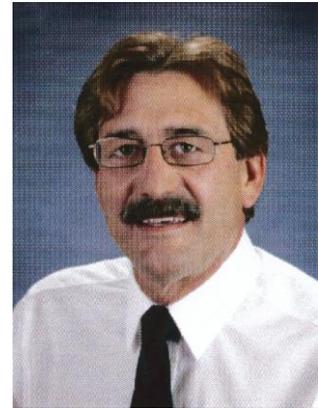
started teaching physical education at Tintah, Minnesota in the fall of 1965. In the fall of 1967, he accepted the position at Nevis School. While at Nevis, he taught social studies, health, physical education, and drivers education. He also served as football coach for twelve years, basketball coach for 11 years, baseball coach, track coach, girls basketball coach for 7 years, and junior high coach of all sports.

Mr. Stanwick saw many changes during his career at Nevis. Some of the most memorable was the move to the new school, growing from a one-section to two-section school after open enrollment started, technology with computers, changing from a one-class to multiple-class sports system depending on the sport, changing from a traditional schedule to a block schedule, and more activities. When he first started teaching, the only activities were boys sports of football, basketball, baseball, and track.



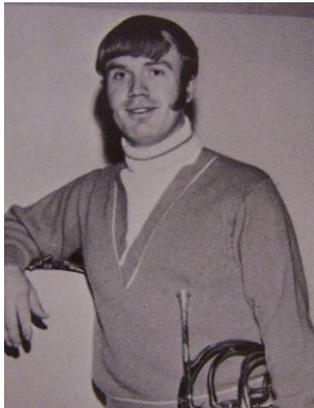
**Gary Wolff**  
**33 Years**  
**1971-2005**

Mr. Wolff earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Southwest State University, Marshall, Minnesota in 1970. He earned his coaching certification from Bemidji State University. He started teaching two hours per day at Nevis School in 1971. He was Nevis' first art teacher. For four years, he taught art at both Nevis and Laporte before teaching full-time at Nevis. During his tenure at Nevis, Mr.



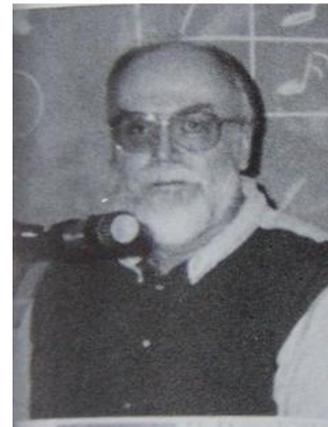
Wolff coached football, basketball, and baseball. He was also the Community Education Director for two years. While at Nevis, he taught art, physical education and health.

Mr. Wolff's most memorable event was helping Mr. Gary Stennes with the Christmas program. Mr. Wolff was in his first year of teaching when Mr. Stennes asked him to put together a slide show that could be used as a backdrop during the Christmas program. When the slides started the night of the program, it was quickly realized that someone had switched the slides to some slides that were not appropriate for the Christmas program. And, to make it worse, the slides rotated through twice. His second memory was as a boys' basketball 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade coach. The team had been going to tournaments on the weekends. On one weekend, Mr. Wolff forgot to remind his athletes to bring a lunch, so he bought lunch for everyone. The following weekend, he reminded everyone, but nobody brought their lunch, so he bought lunch again. On the next weekend, the two teams would be playing at the same time, so Mr. Wolff asked Bucky Lindow, varsity player, to coach one team while he coached the other. Bucky attended practice the night before and Mr. Wolff, wanting to impress Bucky, brought his team to the center and started pumping up the players and the last thing was "What are we going to do tomorrow" and the team replied "Bring our lunch" – not "win" as Bucky and Mr. Wolff anticipated.



**Gary Stennes**  
**34 Years**  
**1965-1999**

Mr. Stennes earned his Bachelor of Science degree in vocal music and speech/drama from Moorhead State University (Minnesota State University, Moorhead) in 1965. He returned to Bemidji State University where he earned his certification in instrumental music. That fall, Mr. Stennes was hired as the music teacher at Nevis School. He taught first through twelfth grade music, band, pep band, stage band, choir, pop choir, musical, one and three act play, and drama classes. He was the class advisor for six graduating classes and supervised twelve proms.



During his 34 years at Nevis he saw several changes at the school. First the school went from 120 to 500 students. Second, the community chose to build a new school instead of consolidating with the neighboring districts. The music room was located in the basement of the original school. Then, it moved to the old American Legion building which the school bought and placed on the west side of the original gym. Then, the music room moved into the new school, he then moved to the stage and finally to the present day band room. The size of the band has over doubled from 30 students in grades 7-12 to 60 students in 9-12 grade. Another change was his high school schedule went from 60 minutes every day for band and choir his first year to 20 minutes every other day for band or choir his final year of teaching.



**Pam Johnson**  
**34+ Years**  
**1977-present**

Mrs. Johnson earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from Bemidji State College (Bemidji State University), Bemidji, Minnesota in 1973. She started teacher full time at Nevis Public School in first grade in 1977. Mrs. Johnson said that she learns from the children every year. Teaching is a learning, growing, changing,



experience. During her time at Nevis, Mrs. Johnson has seen a new school building, many changes in technology with the use of computers and now SMART Boards, and open enrollment help the school grow to a two-section school.



**Kathy Thompson**  
**34+ Years**  
**1977-present**

Mrs. Thompson earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from Bemidji State University in 1977. After graduating she substitute taught at Menahga and Park Rapids Schools. She started teaching full time at Nevis School as the second grade teacher in the fall of 1977. She has taught second grade since then. Mrs. Thompson noted that since starting her teaching career at Nevis, she has participated in 33 Christmas programs.



Mrs. Thompson noted that some of the most memorable changes during her time at Nevis School was moving into the present school building. Her room in the old school was directly north of her room in the new school. At the end of the last year in the old school, the students helped move things over to the new school. When the school year started the next fall, the student desks were delayed so the students had to use tables. When the desks arrived, the students enjoyed helping take the tape off their new desks so they could be opened. Another change was the development of technology. In 1977, there were no computers and she used “messy mimeograph” copy machines. Further, she said that seeing new faces over the years has been the most satisfying. There have been changes in co-workers, administration, parents and students as enrollment has doubled during her time at Nevis School, all of which has been very rewarding.



**Lyn Rittgers**  
**37+ Years**  
**1974-present**

Mrs. Rittgers earned her Bachelor of Science degree in English Education and Library Science from University of Wisconsin, River Falls in 1974. She started teaching at Nevis School the fall after graduation. She has taught English 7-11, College Composition, Shakespeare, Creative Writing, and Mythology at Nevis; in addition, to being the school Librarian for many years.

In addition to teaching, Mrs. Rittgers has been the class advisor the graduating classes of 1980, 1986, 1992, 1998, 2004, 2010, and now the class of 2016. She was also the junior high girls basketball coach for one year.

The biggest changes she has seen over the years is the use of computers in the classrooms, open enrollment which helped Nevis grow from a one-section to two-section school, and the building of the new school.

