

Greetings Einstein Students, Staff, Parents and Community!

I am thrilled to serve as the interim principal of Einstein Elementary. How quickly my eight years of retirement have passed since leaving the LWSD in 2002. I look forward to returning to a vibrant Redmond area school like Einstein since the “Old Redmond Elementary” is where I began my career in education thirty-eight years ago.

My love of children and a desire to teach lead me to a first grade teaching assignment at Redmond Elementary in 1972 where I worked until moving to Emily Dickinson when it opened in 1977. While teaching first graders was rewarding, I soon longed to work in a position where I might have a broader influence on students and colleagues. That desire and the encouragement of others led me to pursue post graduate studies in school administration and in 1982 I was hired as principal of A.G. Bell Elementary. I moved to the LWSD central office in the spring of 1986 and spent the remainder of my “pre-retirement” years serving as Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Assistant Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and finally Superintendent until my retirement in 2002.

Retirement has allowed me the time to pursue my love of gardening, travel, reading and spending more time with extended family, including our dachshunds, Lurvy and Rudy. All the while, I have kept my interest in teaching and public education by working as an educational consultant and even doing some volunteer tutoring.

My husband Lee and I currently live on a small ranch in the Ellensburg area. Boarding horses, gardening and “tractor work” all occupy my time here, but returning to the Kirkland-Redmond area to work will be like “coming home” since I am a product of the LWSD myself; Rose Hill Elementary, Redmond Junior High, and LWHS!

My wish is that you have a restful, yet invigorating and fun filled summer until we all gather to begin the 2010-2011 school year as Einstein Otters!

I look forward to meeting each of you.  
Karen Bates