

## School Talk: A Teacher's Journey

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Special Guest: Alice Schmidt, School Board Member

September 22, 2010

As a new superintendent, I am committed to bringing forward the best of the past while integrating new perspectives into our school district to improve teaching and learning while maintaining fiscal responsibility. In this vein, I will continue writing School Talk articles as has been done in the past. The new versions of School Talk will tell the great stories of the Columbus School District through the perspectives of our staff and students. Each article will feature a special guest or guests and highlight a featured event or project through a webcam video. These School Talk segments are available on our website at [www.columbus.k12.wi.us](http://www.columbus.k12.wi.us). By simply clicking on the video link, you will be able to hear first-hand the great things that are going on in the Columbus School District. I will also provide a narrative summary of the webcam video and highlight other activities going on in the school district.

Our first School Talk Webcam Video features Alice Schmidt, School Board Member. Alice has served on the Board of Education since 2007. After a career in teaching, Alice retired back home in Columbus and tirelessly serves her community in many capacities. This School Talk provides a story Alice shared with our teachers at the beginning of the year in-service. During the video she describes the pivotal point in her career when her job became more than work. Her story helps inspire all of us to truly find our calling in what we have chosen for our profession.

## Highlights in the School District also include:

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- Columbus 2010 graduates scored an average composite score of 23.1 on the ACT test. This is a full point ahead of the state average and the highest composite score in the last thirteen years!
- Columbus Middle School is recognized by the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators as an Exemplary Middle School in Math. Over the last five years, we have improved the number of students scoring advanced or proficient in Math by 10%. In November 2009, almost 90% of our students were advanced or proficient on the state test in Math.
- Over 91% of Columbus Elementary School students scored advanced or proficient in Math during the 2009-2010 school year. This matches the highest test scores over the last five years and is over 14% higher than the state average.

**COLUMBUS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**A GREAT PLACE TO WORK, LEARN AND PLAY!**

**GO CARDS!**

