



Abbotsford District Retired Teachers' Association  
June, 2020

Everyone,

We are definitely living in unprecedented times! Will we be talking in the future about “pre-Covid-19” and “post Covid-19” in our conversations? I think so. The Abbotsford District Retired Teachers' Association is taking the safety first approach in regards to our future meetings. We will hold off scheduling anything until we know it is safe for us. After all, we are in the vulnerable age group.



It is very disappointing to all of us on the executive as we had such a fun schedule of events planned for this spring.

Especially disappointing is not being able to celebrate the 2020 retirees. Two members heeded the call for names of new retirees and we were able to make contact with Judy and Marilyn and received their write-ups in time for this newsletter. (Thanks to Brenda Duffels and Marilyn Jobson). We hoped we would have more, but as of today, we haven't received the official list from the ATU.

If you know of anyone who is retiring this year, please send their name and contact information along to me as I would like to celebrate this milestone by publishing their career history in our summer newsletter and congratulate them on making it to retirement.

I want to wish you all the very best and hope you have a nice summer here in our beautiful province. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Retirement rules,

Gloria

gloriaadam@shaw.ca



### **Marilyn Wight**

Mt. Lehman Elementary

P. E. Grades 2, 3 and 4

I was very fortunate to spend my entire teaching career at Mt. Lehman Elementary in Abbotsford where I taught part-time for 31 years from 1989 to 2020. For the first 7 years I taught P.E. and then I taught grades 2, 3, and 4 with exceptionally talented, supportive teaching partners.

During my teaching career I taught Primary Choir for 31 years, ran the morning Sports Day events, and volunteered to be the Staff and Pro D Rep. I am very grateful to all the staff, parents, and students who I had an opportunity to work with at Mt. Lehman Elementary.



## **Judy Chappell**

Margaret Stenersen Elementary

Kindergarten Teacher

I have enjoyed a 32 year teaching career. I was a TOC for 1 year in the district of Maple Ridge and then I began my 31 year teaching career with School District #34, Abbotsford.

I was hired as a grade one teacher at Margaret Stenersen Elementary in 1989. Funny thing is, I never left! I have stayed at Margaret Stenersen for my entire career. There was never any reason for me to leave. I have worked with many amazing teachers and administrators and Stenersen always had and still has a warm and welcoming feel. I have always felt supported and cared about. What better environment to be in.

Thank you to all of my colleagues both past and present for their support and kindness throughout the years.

While at Stenersen I taught grade 1, grade 1/2, grade 3 and now Kindergarten for the last 11 years.

The highlights of my career would be starting Author's Night at Stenersen and taking my grade 2 students caving to Horne Lake Caves on Vancouver Island (I did this twice). I was thrilled to be a part of a once in a lifetime experience for many of these students and parents alike. They loved it!

I love the outdoors so now that I am retiring I would like to spend more time hiking, biking, kayaking, swimming, running and going for long walks. I belong to an outdoor group and a biking group, so now I can go on more outings with them.

I will also be making lots of photo books and doing more arts/crafts. When the world returns to a more welcoming place, I would love to do more travelling as well. I always like learning new things and going on adventures so who knows where the road ahead will lead.

I would like to end by thanking my loving family for always being there for me through all the ups and downs....they are my rock and my everything!



One of my first Author's Nights where students shared stories that they wrote, with each other and their parents.



Caving field trips