

# **PDK's Distinguished Educator Profiles**

PDK's Distinguished Educators represent the best and brightest of our membership. Read below for names and profiles of these extraordinary educators.







**Name:** Sheree P. Koppel

**Role:** College Dean

**Educator Since:** 1972

**What is your teaching philosophy?** "...The goal of education is growth and our content provides the tools that foster human growth and development."



**Name:** Donald D. Forrester

**Role:** Retired Educator

**Educator Since:** 1967

**What advice would you give to someone considering a career in education?** "...



Teaching today is challenging and exhausting, but the benefits from student engagement outweigh all negative factors."



**Name:** Olivia J. Butler

**Role:** Retired Educator

**Educator Since:** 1973

**What was your favorite thing about being in the classroom?** "Helping and watching my students' progress and growth from the beginning of the year to the end."



**Name:** David Brian Williams

**Role:** Retired Educator

**Educator Since:** 1965

**What is your teaching philosophy?** "The ultimate goal in the pursuit of learning is enabling creative expression in its many forms."





**Name:** Dr. David Harms

**Role:** Teacher

**Educator Since:** 2002

**What advice would you give to someone considering a career in education?** "Get to know your students, build relationships, and maintain integrity. Also, always be flexible."



**Name:** Elizabeth Topkis

**Role:** Teacher

**Educator Since:** 1982

**What is your favorite thing about being in the classroom?** "I love watching a student understand a concept and then being able to use it correctly and show others how to use it."



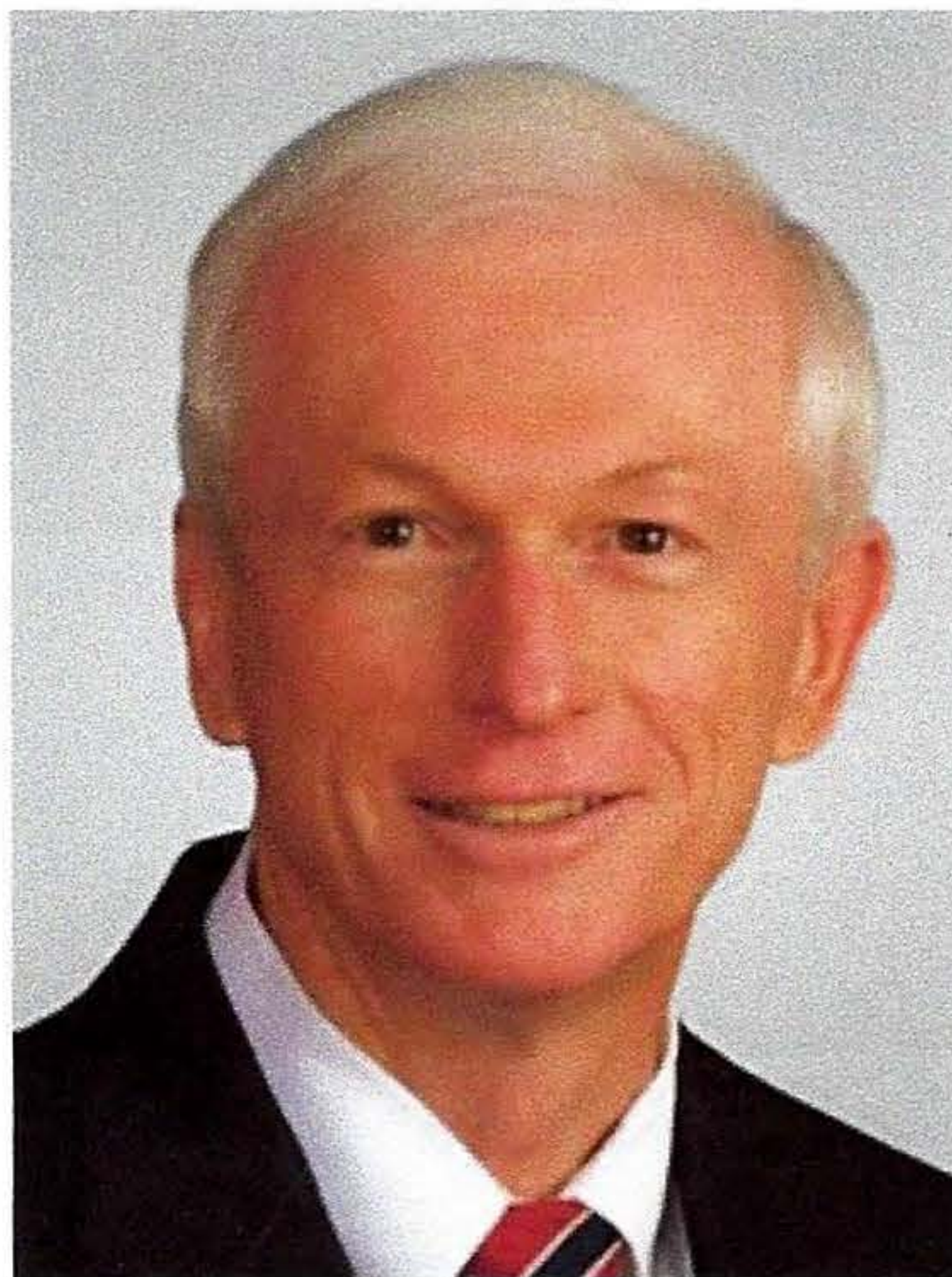


**Name:** Jack Bailey

**Role:** Consultant

**PDK member since:** 2008

**What is your teaching philosophy?** "Practical application: the material must be relevant, or made relevant; and the instructor must present it in a way that the student understands the value."



**Name:** Charles Richard Webb

**Role:** Retired Educator

**Educator Since:** 1976

**What advice would you give to someone considering a career in education?** "Be honest. Be yourself. Build trust. Build teamwork. Listen to others and find the facts. Do what you say you will do. "



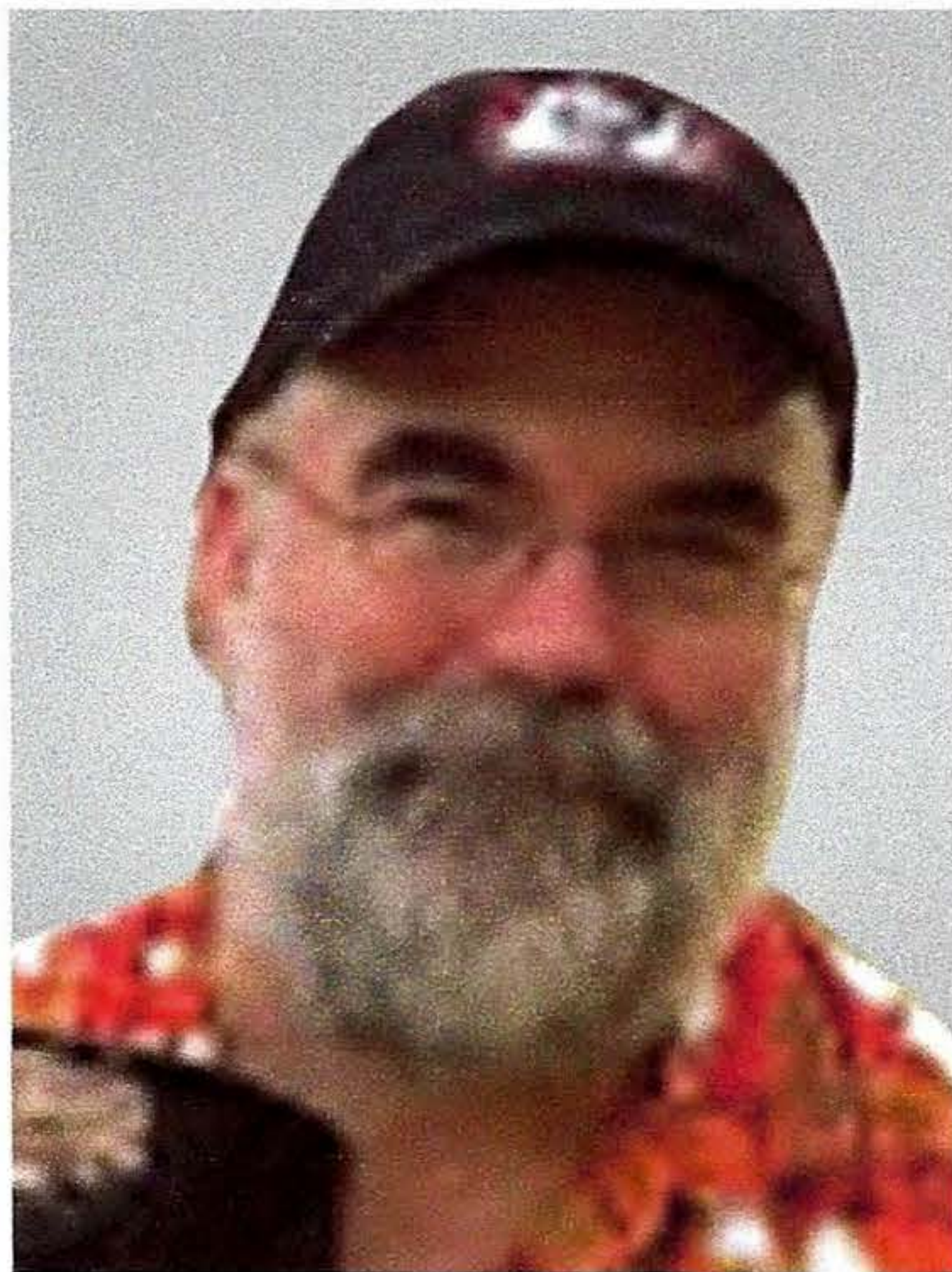


**Name:** Cecilia J. St. Pierre

**Role:** Assistant Principal

**Educator Since:** 1992

**What was your favorite thing about being in the classroom?** "Teaching secondary science using hands-on, minds-on performance-based activities and cooperative learning centers for STEM topics."



**Name:** Richard M. Jones

**Role:** Teacher

**Educator Since:** 1988

**What is your teaching philosophy:** "Active learning is real learning."



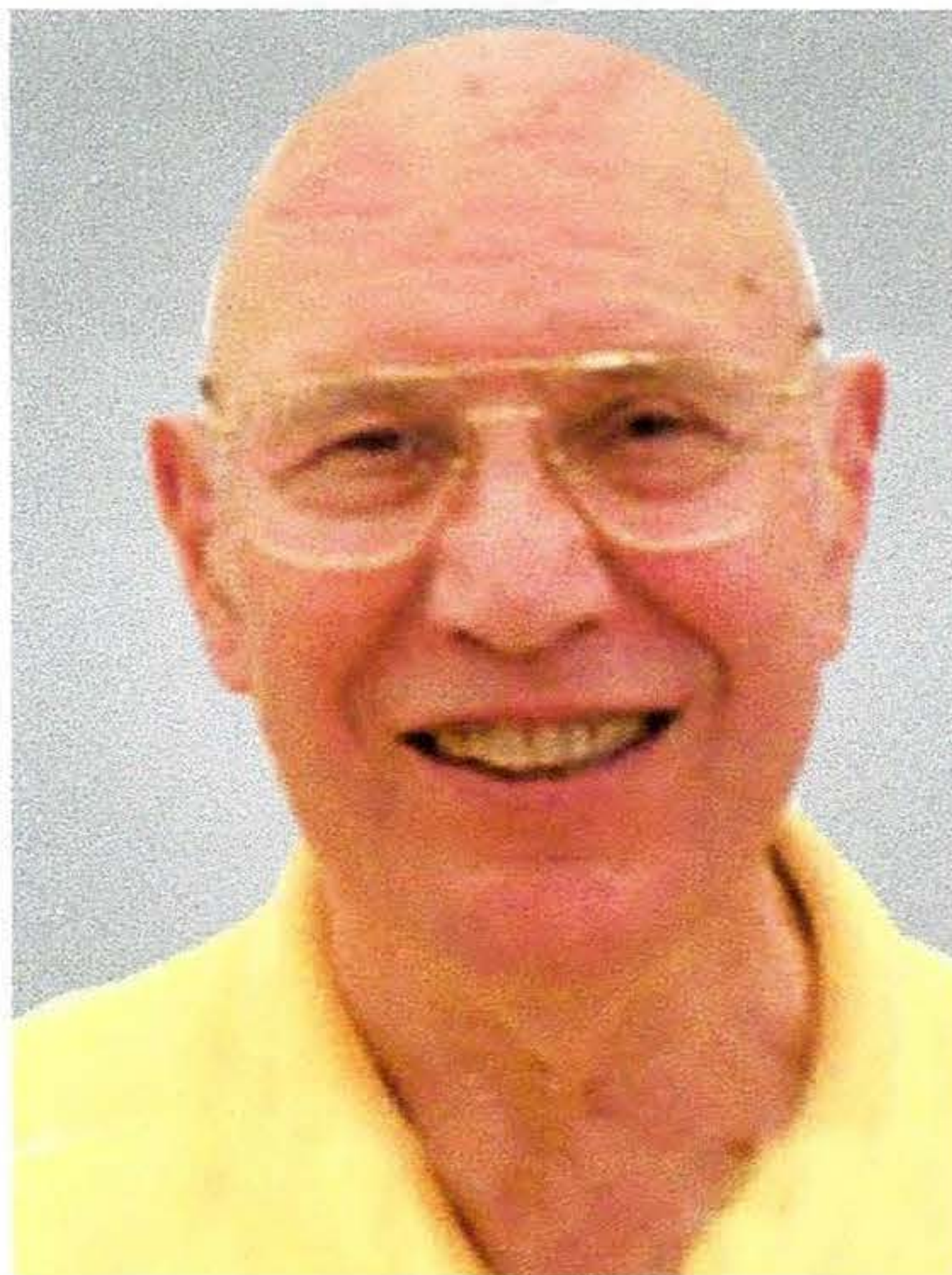


**Name:** Lindsey Pollock

**Role:** Principal

**Educator Since:** 1992

**What advice would you give to someone considering a career in education?** "...Do this work because you believe with your whole heart that this is your calling in life. The hours are long and you work hard but the rewards are in the smiles of your students as you see them succeed in moving closer to their dreams!"



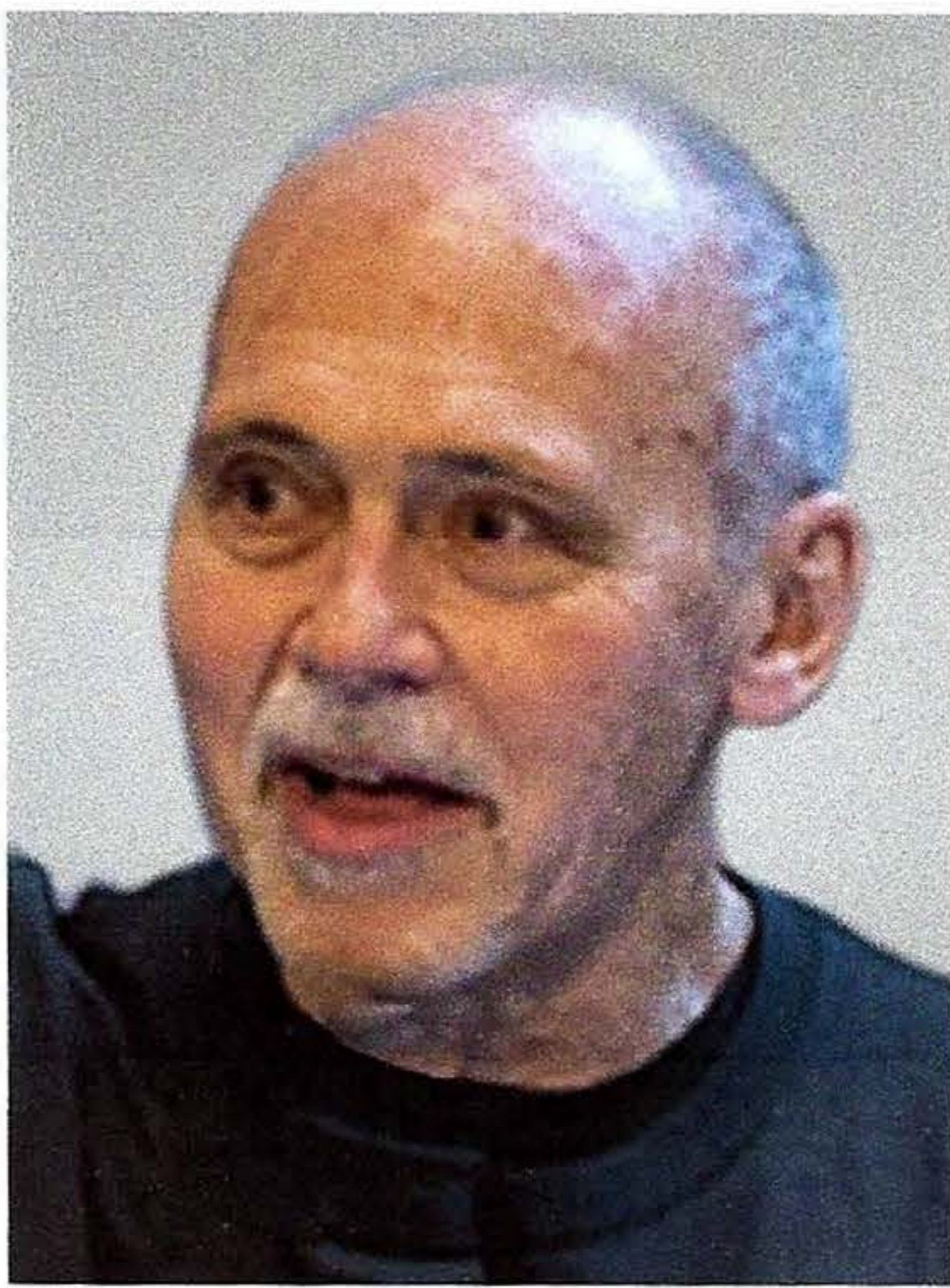
**Name:** Joel Berg

**Role:** Retired Educator

**Educator Since:** 1948

**What was your favorite thing about being in the classroom?** "Enjoying students' discoveries through their own initiatives."





**Name:** Stephen Sroka

**Role:** Teacher of Teachers

**Educator Since:** 1969

**What advice would you give to someone considering a career in education?** "Keep the fire burning!"



**Name:** Dr. Summer E. Stephens

**Role:** District Leader

**Educator Since:** 1999

**What was your favorite thing about being in the classroom?** "I truly appreciated engaging students in opportunities to pursue their passions and interests as well as learn to collaborate and engage in the interests of others."



# Distinguished Educator Directory

Jack Bailey

Whitney Bellomo

Joel Berg

Olivia Butler

Bruce Clemetsen

Mike Cowan

Frank Gilmer

Carolyn Gore

David Harms

Richard Jones

Leslie Kaplan

Dan Kennedy

Sheree Koppel

Betty Ann Kotowski

Archibald Laud-Hammond

Frances Lawlor

Roberta Levitt

Nina Little

Tim Mains

Stephanie Marshall

Hugh McDermott

Maxine Miller



Florence Monsour

Natasha Murray

Mary O'Reilly-Kehoe

Siobhan Petrella

Lindsey Pollock

James Quail

Rodney Quinn

William Raines

Alan Rodin

Andrea Sala

Randall Schmalz

Edward Scott

Edward Shirley

Robert Slaby

David Sloan

Kimberly Sopko

Darrin Sorrells

Stephen Sroka

Cecilia St.Pierre

Summer Stephens

Mark Strauss

Moria Sweeting-Miller

Carla Thompson

Charles Thurston

Elizabeth Topkis

Bonnie Troupe



Jeremy Utt

William Vorlicky

Charles Webb

Mary Weiss

David Williams

John Wilson

Patricia Zissios

Peter Zwerver

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