



A Tribute



John A. McAdams, Ed.D. **Assistant Superintendent** **for** **Curriculum and Instruction**

May 6, 1943 – April 7, 2008

“Dr. John McAdams was a special leader. He left quite an imprint on all of us as a man of integrity who worked tirelessly on behalf of ASD. He was respected for his confidential and kind treatment of others and was such a tremendous mentor for aspiring leaders in the District. John left a great legacy including the expansion of the Advanced Placement Program and a commitment to access more students to this rigorous academic program. He cared so much for all students. I will always keep as a memory his particular leadership in a strategic planning session the afternoon of April 7, 2008. His guidance and leadership reflected so much passion and enthusiasm; he leaves us with a strong message to carry on.”

Karen S. Angello, Ph.D., Superintendent

“John will be missed greatly. He was an excellent ambassador for the Allentown School District and public education. The more that you came to know John, the more your admiration for him grew. He was at a time in his career when most people are thinking of taking it easy and coasting out. Instead, he was “fired up,” as he told the board last November, because he understood the needs of the District and wanted to be a leader in its improvement activities. He loved his profession and was always a consummate professional: hard-working, always prepared, an expert in his area and a true gentleman.”

Andrew J. Weiss
President, ASD School Board of Directors

“Dr. John McAdams will be remembered by his colleagues for his kind and gentle spirit and his collaborative style of leadership. He will also be remembered as a loving husband, father and grandfather. John’s family was the center of his life. He was so proud of his daughters and spoke often about their struggles and triumphs with joy and admiration. Although we knew that John battled with the weakness of his heart, his death comes as a shock to all of us. We thank his family for sharing him with the Allentown School District for so many years. He will be missed.”

Diane Scott, Ed.D.
Former Superintendent, Allentown School District

“I have been blessed to have known Dr. McAdams for the past several years as a great friend and colleague. It has been a joy working with Dr. McAdams in developing a sustainable educational collaboration between Lehigh University and Allentown School District. His interest has always been what is best for the Allentown School District students and teachers.

Dr. McAdams has been a great ambassador champion for education, public school, Allentown School District and the Greater Lehigh Valley. This is a man with a high intellectual capacity and common sense and both attributes are rare, particularly at any level in education. The Allentown School District, the Greater Lehigh Valley, the State of Pennsylvania and this great country of ours have lost a wonderful educator and an individual who has demonstrated the skills and capacity to bring people together.

Personally, Dr. McAdams, thank you very much for your friendship, kindness and sincere interest in other people regardless of their background. I will miss you greatly, but I take comfort in knowing that you are now with God. Thank you for all the souls you have touched, including mine. Your memory will live on.”

Henry U. Odi, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Academic Outreach
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