

The year was 1987 and Ann Hazelnis unlocked our classroom for the very first time. Thirty-three years later Ann Hazelnis is ready to lock her classroom for the very last time. I have been fortunate to be her partner in the ELA department for all those years. We were hired on the same day 5 minutes apart. I am still ahead of her on the seniority list and it should be the other way around; the district has yet to get the seniority list correct. I am listed ahead of her and she really should be ahead of me. However, there are so many other ways Ann Hazelnis is ahead of me and has been a leading force in our district since the early stages of her career. From leading crazy senior class trips to Florida and cruises to redefining the graduation ceremony with Sheryl Manz. From changing eligibility at games and actually enforcing it to fighting to keep the eligibility at games intact. To treating us with "death by chocolate" when we need it most to portfolio nights to being the assistant to the assistant team mom of the boys' basketball team. She has known

every player on every team because she is at every game to being the freshmen class orientation guru for the past many, many years. She has added to our retirement wardrobe of freshmen orientation t-shirts and thumb drives To having stock in every company that makes cheese crackers or peanut butter crackers...or at least she should have stock...to running the SAT's and ACT's like no other that I know. On a personal level her husband, Michael has helped me get our MTA Benefit Trust functioning as a trust should. Her daughter and my daughter both graduated in the same class at Liberty HS. Her son and my son share the same college at American University in Washington, DC. And have very similar interests for their careers. But maybe most importantly, Ann Hazelnis has been my friend and colleague through every good and bad thing that has happened in our careers and lives. You have made Monticello High School the family that is and the Monticello School District a much better place! We will miss you and our family here will be

saddened by not seeing you every day. However, the impact you have had here will

shape the future of what we continue to do for our Monticello Panthers family.

Moreover, you have enhanced our lives in ways I could not possibly describe nor

could nearly every person in our building—you just don't run and manage our

"sunshine fund;" indeed, you are the epitome of the sunshine in this district every

single day. Congratulations Ann Hazelnis on a job more than well done; but a career

most fabulous and memorable!!