

Barb McManus Conklin Memorial Scholarship



Award for Perseverance

Amount: Two, \$1,000 scholarships

Deadline: Submit to Guidance Office by Tuesday April 29th, 2025

This scholarship is awarded to a student who has encountered a significant challenge, yet demonstrates perseverance and has been able to find good, in a bad situation. Preference will be given to a student who attended West Middle School and is planning to pursue a career in a “helping profession.”

“When life kicks you, let it kick you forward.” Kay Yow

This quote deeply resonated with Barb. As a school counselor in the Binghamton District for over fourteen years, she battled breast cancer for over half of those years, yet many did not know this about her, as she didn’t let it slow her down or define her. Instead, it made her a better person. She loved a little deeper, laughed a little louder, and smiled a whole lot more.

Throughout her illness, Barb continued to come to West Middle School nearly every day, usually with a skip in her step and a bright smile on her face. Being surrounded by her students and friends at West Middle, gave her strength and courage to face this difficult challenge. She continued to perform her job in exemplary fashion and lived a life many were envious of. Whether she was traveling to a tropical destination, going hang gliding or surfing, an impromptu dance party in the Guidance Office, or just watching a game with her boys, Barb made the most of every minute and was able to find the good in every day.

To complete the application, fill out the application and write an essay about a significant challenge you have been faced with and how you were able to persevere through it. Be sure to include how this has made you a better person and provide some positive take aways.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Personal Email: _____

Colleges Applied To: _____

College You Will Attend and Planned Major: _____