

ANDERSON TO RETIRE



22 Years in Eagle Nation

In December, the Grandview R-II School Board officially received news about the worst-kept secret of the year. Our long-time vocal music teacher, Ms. Deborah Anderson, will retire at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

Ms. Anderson is in her 22nd year at Grandview and her 25th year in education in general. Before coming to Eagle Nation, Ms. Anderson taught at the Windsor C-1 School District, her alma mater. She attended Jefferson College for her freshman year, then earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Music Education from Missouri Baptist University.



Be The Reason A Student Comes To School

While growing up, music has always been a love for Ms. Anderson, and she felt the best thing she could do was to help inspire kids to explore their own interests in music. In a small community like Grandview, she wanted to help ensure that there is a place for music in students' lives. This was done by trying to be extremely patient with the elementary kids and to make

sure that music class was a fun and rewarding experience. She feels that music can be that class that might help that one kid get through the day. One particular student epitomizes this mindset. This student, a 5th grader at the time, struggled in the regular classroom and felt that everyone else was passing her by. That is until it was time for recorders.

This student excelled at the recorder. She flew through the levels and attained her “black belt” before everyone else. Music was the key that unlocked school for her and it became the reason she wanted to be in school.

Looking Back

As anyone who is getting ready to retire does, Ms. Anderson has spent some time looking back at how things have changed over her career. The biggest change she has witnessed is the increased level of influence school personnel have on a student’s life. The educational system has always filled an important role, but recently the demands put on teachers, administration, and all staff in general have increased dramatically. She advises new and future teachers to be patient with the processes that seem to change from year to year and to keep trying to find new ways to influence their students in positive ways.

A Hopeful Legacy

When asked about what she feels is her best legacy at Grandview, she said that her love of the district allowed her to stay for over 20 years. She loves the fact that she was able to teach her children here and was actually able to teach one of them from kindergarten to graduation. She also feels humbled that she was able

to influence students to further their education in music and even to want to teach music themselves. She is proud of the students who have attained All-State Choir honors during her tenure. This is a grueling process and no mean feat for a school the size of Grandview. One of her students even made it in both the 11th and 12th grades.

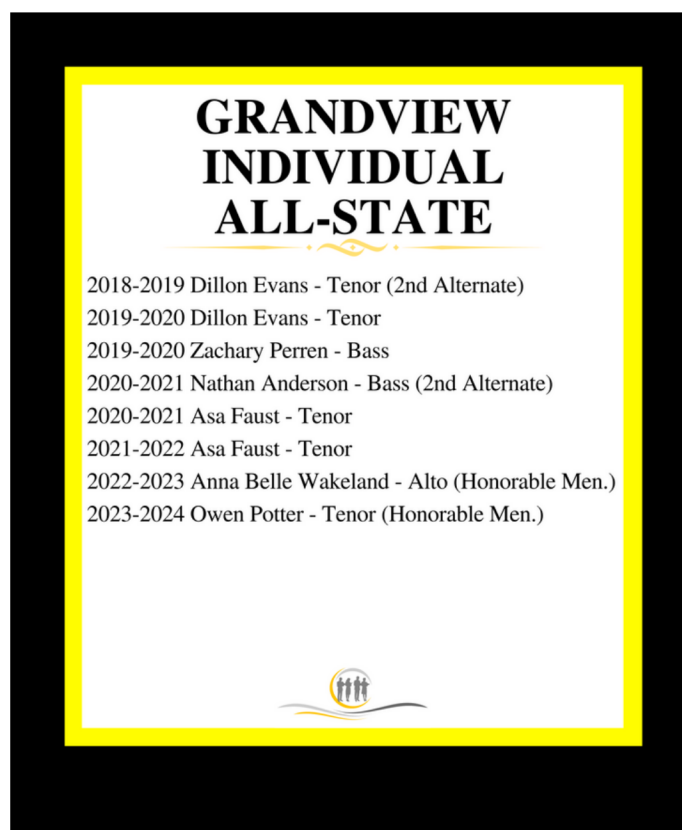
Ms. Anderson is extremely grateful for the support of her family in her career. The oldest of four children, she was the first member of her family to attain a college education. The pride they have shown her has helped her keep going through time as a teacher.

Future Plans

Future plans for Ms. Anderson include, being able to expand her role with the Spotlight Community Theatre.

She is currently their Music Director and a Board Member and is excited to be able to do more with that group. She will also be able to tune pianos. In addition, she plans to experience, “More books, more movies, and more sleeping late.”

Ms. Anderson, we thank you for your time and dedication to Grandview. It will be different not seeing you around campus. Know you have made a difference in many students’ lives and you will be sorely missed.



**Future banner to be hung in the high school with
All-State singers directed by Ms. Anderson**