



News Release

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Centennial School District Announces Hall of Fame Class of 2018

Deb Kline and Phyllis Hitchcock inducted during homecoming festivities

September 28, 2018 (Circle Pines, MN)—**Deb Kline and Phyllis Hitchcock** will be inducted into the Centennial School District Hall of Fame today, Friday, September 28. The induction coincides with various homecoming events, including a luncheon, pep fest, and pregame activities. The induction will take place at 11:45am at Centennial High School, 4757 North Road, Circle Pines, Minnesota. The District's Hall of Fame recognizes its alumni and members of the community for their professional accomplishments and commitment to youth and the District's communities.

"As we continue to grow our Hall of Fame program, I am honored to recognize these two individuals for their dedication to students, teachers, the profession, and the community," said **Brian Dietz, Superintendent of Centennial Schools**.

Deb Kline, Distinguished Alumna, Class of 1978. This year marks Kline's 25th year at Centennial School District where she works with students in the Developmental Cognitive Disabilities program at Centennial Middle School. Outside of the classroom, Kline is dedicated to coaching adapted sports and "leveling the playing field" so all students have the same opportunities. This year also marks her 25th year of coaching adapted soccer, floor hockey, and softball. Deb has mentored and coached hundreds of athletes. She's been the head coach for 18 years and her teams have won five state championships. Deb has been recognized by the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association and named the Adapted Athletics State Coach of the Year. Deb built the adapted sports program at Centennial to be one of the very best in the state and that is a direct result of all of her hard work and determination.

Phyllis Hitchcock, Distinguished Service, teaching at Centennial Junior High and High School from 1977-2017. Hitchcock was a pioneer, creating a Health Hybrid Class, the first of its kind at Centennial High School. The students are given online learning activities, as part of the health curriculum, as well as face-to-face instruction in the classroom. Her desire to make Centennial a better school led her to serve on 15 school committees and groups. She learned more and shared more about teaching through her work as a mentor to student teachers and new teachers on staff, and through her work reviewing curriculum. She even brought CPR into her health classroom. Connecting with student athletes was especially rewarding when Hitchcock coached Girls Varsity Swimming and Diving as well as Junior High girls' basketball. Her 40-year career was dedicated to interacting with students and guiding student learning.