



News Release

Contact: Krista Bergert, (763) 792-6060; cell (612) 308-2608

Centennial School District Inducts Four into its Hall of Fame

***Tony Smeed, Robert McMorran, Lawrence Biehn, Ruth Roth**
honored at homecoming festivities*

October 3, 2014 (Circle Pines, MN)—**Tony Smeed, Robert McMorran, Lawrence Biehn** and **Ruth Roth** will be inducted into the Centennial School District Hall of Fame today. Induction coincides with various homecoming events, including a luncheon, pep fest and the homecoming half-time show. The District's Hall of Fame recognizes its alumni and members of the community who make its schools great.

"Today we honor those alumni and individuals who have made a significant impact on Centennial Schools with the induction into the Hall of Fame," said **Brian Dietz, Superintendent of Centennial Schools**. "Our recipients demonstrate outstanding professional accomplishments and have a longstanding history of service to the District."

Tony Smeed, Distinguished Alumnus, Class of 1989. Always a fan of creature films, and art in general, Tony was offered a trainee-level animation position by The Walt Disney Animation Studios in Burbank, California after graduation. Tony has worked on many animated award-winning films including *Dinosaur*, *Bolt*, *Tangled*, *Wreck it Ralph* and *Frozen*. Tony is the Head of Animation of three of Disney's upcoming films, starting with the 2016 release of the film, *Zootopia*.

Robert McMorran, Distinguished Service, Class of 1959-1990. Bob was the first band instructor at Centennial and taught for 31 years for the District. Starting with a band of 42 students, Bob grew the band to 115 and created an award-winning music department that continues today.

Lawrence Biehn, Distinguished Service, 1966-1993, awarded posthumously. Under his leadership, Centennial became the first high school in Minnesota to offer courses for college credit, and he was a strong supporter of the student exchange and teacher exchange programs. He was instrumental in rallying community support for the construction of the performing arts center and the ice arena. After retirement, Lawrence was a substitute teacher at the high school and a donor to the scholarship program.

Ruth Roth, Distinguished Service, 1990-2011. Ruth Roth was the counseling secretary at the high school for 21 years. She was a dedicated Centennial employee who always had a smile on her face, positive attitude and provided excellent service to the staff, parents and most importantly to the students. Today, she continues to make a difference in students' lives and helps them live their dreams. Ruth's home-made pies are auctioned off, with proceeds going to the Ruth Roth Pie Scholarship, to benefit Centennial students.

