

**Melinda A. LaBarre**

*Newly-appointed Member of the Illinois State Board of Education*

**Experience:**

- Consultant, Ball Education Foundation (1998-2003)
- Principal, Hay Edwards Elementary School (1997-1998)
- Principal, Pleasant Hill Elementary School (1992-1997)
- Principal Assistant, Wilcox and Harvard Park (1990-1992)
- Gifted Specialist, District #186, Springfield, IL (1989-1990)
- Reading and Math specialist, District #189, Springfield, IL (1989)
- Elementary Classroom Teacher, District #189, Springfield, IL (1963-1990)

**Honors and Distinctions:**

- Springfield Education Association's "Bob Goldman Friend of Education Award" (2009)
- Illinois Association of School Boards Master Board Member Award at the Abe Lincoln Division Semi-annual Conference (2005)
- Member of Governor Ryan's Transition Team for Education (1998)
- Pleasant Hill selected as a *Blue Ribbon* school for academic excellence by the United States Department of Education (1997)
- Pleasant Hill selected as a model *Student Assistance Program* by the United States Department of Education (1995)
- Horace Mann *Educator of the Year* in Springfield (1989)

**Community Work:**

- Member of Springfield Public Schools District #186 School Board (2003-2009)
- Currently volunteers at Asbury Methodist Church Children's Supper Hour, Symphony Guild, and St. John's Breadline

**Education and Training:**

- Facilitating Teams and Groups, Association for Quality and Participation, Chicago, Illinois (2001)
- Summer Institute for Beginning Principals, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (1992)
- Outward Bound, Thompson Island, Boston, Massachusetts (1992)
- Confratute, University of Connecticut in Storrs (Gifted Education) (1989)
- University of Illinois, Springfield, Masters Degree in Educational Administration (1988)
- Reading Certification (1980)
- Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, B.S. in Elementary Education (K-9) (1963)

**Personal:**

- Currently resides in Springfield