

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Jerry Harrison

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Agriculture- School Reorganization Oral History project

AI-A-L-2012-014

Jerry Harrison, a member of Illinois's Classrooms First Commission charged with examining school reorganization in the state, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture-School Reorganization* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Apr 17, 2012 Location: Professional Development Building- Springfield, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:16 Hours / 1.27 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 21, 2012

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Jerry Harrison, Agriculture in Illinois, AI-A-L-2012-014

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Jerry Harrison grew up in Virginia, Illinois, and earned a Bachelors Degree from Western Illinois University. He began his career in Pittsfield (circa 1982) teaching junior high school social science, science, and coaching. He also taught at Heyworth from 1983 to 1985. In 1986, Harrison began working with the Illinois Education Association (IEA). In 2011, he was named the IEA representative to the Classrooms First Commission, created by the Illinois state legislature and headed by Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon. This Commission was given the task of looking at reorganization and efficiency options for school districts. The interview covers Harrison's experiences on the Commission. At the time of the interview in 2012 he served as Field Director for District #11, which covers school districts in Sangamon County.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Classrooms First Commission; school reorganization in Illinois schools; Illinois Education Association; Educational Shared Services; Operational Shared Services; within district efficiencies for Illinois schools; realignment efficiency profiles for Illinois schools; Illinois state reorganization incentives; 1985 Educational Reform Act; state educational mandates; Regional Offices of Education in Illinois; teacher pensions in Illinois; school construction; Illinois House Bill 1216; Article 5, Illinois State Constitution; PTELL (Property Tax Extension Levy Limitation);

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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