

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Andrea Markert

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Education is Key-Alternatives in Education* Oral History project

Interview # EA-A-L-2019-004

Andrea Markert, the principal at University High School in Normal, Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key – Alternatives in Education* Oral History project.

Date & Location:

Date: Jan 25, 2019    Location: University High School, Normal, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview being  
processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_    Total Time: 1:22 / 1.37 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on July 24, 2019.

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

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## Abstract

### Andrea Markert, Alternatives in Education, EA-A-L-2019-004

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Andrea Markert was born in Springfield, Illinois in December 1972. She attended Springfield public schools, graduating from Springfield High School in 1990. Andrea graduated from Western Illinois University in 1994, majoring in biology. Returning to Springfield, she enrolled at the University of Illinois-Springfield, earning a BS in teacher education with a major in chemistry. She began her teaching career at Logan Junior High in Princeton, Illinois, where she taught science for three years. Andrea taught high school science at Deer Creek-Mackinaw from 2001-2004. She was then hired to teach science and coach cheerleading at University High in Bloomington, Illinois. During that time, Andrea earned a masters' degree from Illinois State University in educational administration (2003). After four years at U-High, she became dean at its sister elementary school, Thomas Metcalf. In 2010, she returned to become assistant principal at University High Lab School and then eventually principal, a position she continues to hold. She has been active in standards-based research which is an ongoing project at Illinois State and University High.

This interview covers the history and activities at University High in Normal, Illinois, which is listed as the oldest "Lab" school in the United States, being formed in 1857. The Lab School is connected to Illinois State University and has a mission of helping with the learning experiences for teacher candidates. Markert discusses the school's leadership in educational research (Standards Based Assessment), its work with new approaches to learning, and serving as a Teacher Education Center. The school's current site was built in 1964 and is on the campus of Illinois State University. The daily schedule includes hybrid courses (three days at University High and two days at ISU), independent study, advanced placement, dual credit, and student/teacher research projects.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** University High School, Normal, Illinois; "lab" schools; ties with Illinois State University; pre-teaching instruction; ISU Teacher Education Center; Standards Based Assessment; funding for "lab schools";

**Notes 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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