

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Roycealee Wood

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Education is Key-1985 Educational Reform Act Oral History project

Interview # E85-A-L-2015-007

Roycealee Wood, Regional Superintendent of Schools for Lake County, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's Oral History project, *Education is Key-1985 Educational Reform Act* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Jan 30, 2015 Location: Regional Office of Education, Grayslake, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:32 / 1.53 hrs

Transcript
being processed

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on April 2, 2015.

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

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Abstract

Roycealee Wood, Education is Key, E85-A-L-2015-007

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Roycealee Wood was born in Rockford, Illinois in 1940. She attended Rockford schools and graduated from Rockford East High School in 1958. She earned a BS and an MA degree from Northwestern University, majoring in education, speech/drama and counseling. Roycealee started her teaching career at the Lake Forest school district, but spent most of her K-12 education work at North Chicago. She spent the next twenty years there serving as a teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal, guidance director, and assistant superintendent for curriculum/instruction. She then became Assistant Regional Superintendent for Lake County for four years. In 2003 she became the Regional Superintendent, and has also been President of the Great Lakes Region of the Navy League, chair of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Crossroads Council of the Girl Scouts, and as President of the Lake County of the Navy League of the U.S.

This interview covers the impact of the 1985 Education Reform Act on North Chicago and the entire Lake County region. Roycealee covers her involvement with the new learning goals, local and state assessment, the Illinois Reading Recovery Center, and the staff development that took place because of the 1985 Reforms. She also explains how the district and teachers benefited from the increased staff training in technology, science, math, reading, gifted, and administrative leadership. She covers the role of the Regional Office of Education in its responsibilities for staff development, substitute certification, alternative education, truant intervention, school compliance visits, life safety inspections, bus driver permits, GED, school reorganization, and bilingual education. Most of these programs had begun under the 1985 Education Reform Act. She also covers the relationship of the Regional Offices (ROE) with the State Board of Education and local school districts.

Subject Headings/Key Words: 1985 Education Reform Act; North Chicago school district; impact of Educational Reform Act on North Chicago area; relationship of the Regional Office of Education to state government and Illinois State Board of Education; Illinois Reading Recovery Center; monitoring compliance of federal or state law mandates;

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