

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. Doug Blair

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

Interview # AI-A-L-2011-045

Dr. Doug Blair, a life-long educator and a superintendant when the Olympia, Illinois School District was created, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois – School District Reorganization* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: 9/14/2011 Location: Springfield, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:16.00/ 1.25 hours

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on January 28, 2012.

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

Transcript
being processed

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Abstract

Dr. Doug Blair *Agriculture in Illinois* AI-A-L-2011-045

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Dr. Doug Blair was born on June 10th, 1934 in Corning, New York. He graduated from Quincy High School in 1952. Later he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1961 and a Master of Science degree in 1964 and an Education Degree in 1981 from Illinois State University. He started his teaching and administrative career in the Tri-Valley Schools, where he served from 1956 to 1965. He then became Superintendent of Atlanta, Illinois and later became involved in the creation of the Olympia School District in 1967. This district brought the five districts of Danvers, Hopedale, Minier, Stanford, Armington, Waynesville, McClain and Atlanta together. The New District had some delays on a new centrally located High School which eventually opened in 1972. Dr. Blair first served as Assistant Superintendent and then Superintendent of the District. In 1976, he joined the Illinois Association of School Boards where he continued to work on a part-time basis. Dr. Blair was married and was in the Air Force. The Olympia School District has served as a state model for mergers. The district was 377 square miles in size. Doug passed away on March 10, 2017.

Subject Headings/Key Words: School Reorganization and/or Consolidation; school Referenda; School Construction; Olympic School District; Atlanta, Illinois; Danvers, Illinois; Hopedale, Illinois; Minier, Illinois; Stantond, Illinois; Armington, Illinois; Waynesville, Illinois; McClean, Illinois; school transportation; Illinois Reorganization Commission; school litigation; Transition Planning, House Bill 1216 Commission

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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