

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. Max Pierson
Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Agriculture in Illinois Oral History project

Interview # AI-A-L-2011-069

Dr. Max Pierson, who has worked on school administration and school district reorganization issues for many years as a superintendant and later on the faculty at Western Illinois University, 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: Nov 22, 2011 Location: Macomb, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPLM Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:14 / 1.23 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on February 13, 2012.

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

Interview being
processed

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Abstract

Dr. Max Pierson, *Agriculture in Illinois*, AI-A-L-2011-069

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Dr. Max Pierson was born on September 20, 1945 near Princeton, Illinois, and attended one room schools for his first five years of schooling, graduating from Princeton High School in 1963. He earned his B.S. from the University of Illinois and a Masters Degree and later a Doctor of Education degree from Illinois State in 1976. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army (1968-1970) in Vietnam. His work experience included the districts of Gridley, Pontiac-Esmen, Cornell, and Savanna, and later Western Illinois University (WIU). He served thirteen years as Superintendent and thirteen years on the staff at Western, including three years as Department Chair/Educational Administrator and Supervisor.

Dr. Pierson has written numerous feasibility studies regarding school reorganization in northern, western, and central Illinois. Some of his publication topics include writings on Random Drug Testing, Alternative Certification, Board Member Training, Property Tax Extension Limitation Act, School District Reorganization, Superintendent Selection, Administration/Principal Evaluation, School Law, Entrepreneurship Education, Health and Life Safety, School –Business Partnerships, School Finance Issues, Tech Prep and Rural revitalization. Currently he serves on the Wesley Willows Village Board of Directors.

Subject Headings/Key Words: school district reorganization; Regional Board of School Trustees; school deactivation; school conversion; school consolidation; cooperative/regional high school; school annexation; Unit Dual Districts; 1985 Educational Reform Act; state of Illinois school incentives; County Wide School; school waivers; improving educational opportunities for students; Classroom First Commission; school transportation; school construction; obstacles for reorganization; Environmental Protection Act/Agency; equalized assessed valuation (EAV); tax levies

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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