

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. JoAnn Desmond

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

Interview # AI-A-L-2011-062

Dr. JoAnn Desmond, 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: 12/8/2011, Deerfield, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue

Transcription by: Jan Droegkamp, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Roberta Volkmann & Jan Culp, ALPL volunteers

Total Pages: 22    Total Time: 1:11 / 1.18 hrs

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## Abstract

Dr. JoAnn Desmond, Agriculture in Illinois, AI-A-L-2011-062

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Dr. JoAnn Desmond was born on May 8, 1947 in Chicago, Illinois. She graduated from Resurrection High School in northwest Chicago and earned her B.S., Masters and Doctorate (Educational Leadership) degrees from Northern Illinois University. Desmond started her career as a secondary math teacher, spending nineteen years in DeKalb Unit School District #428 as a teacher and administrator. She first worked as a superintendent in Frankfort School District #157 (1990-95). From 1995-2002, she served as superintendent in the newly formed North Shore District #112. There she worked to create a unified district from three kindergartens through eighth grade (K-8) districts that had differing demographics, including a large Hispanic population, and a military base population. This required a major referendum to improve several school buildings. As a result, Dr. Desmond earned a “Those Who Excel Award” in 2002. For the past ten years, Dr. Desmond has served as a Superintendent of Bannockburn School District # 106.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** school reorganization; Classroom First Hearing; school dissolution; school referenda; school consolidation; Illinois election law; federal military property and local schools; school building construction; state educational incentives; PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) Tax Rates; 1985 Educational Reform Act; local boards of education; obstacles in school consolidation; dual districts-unit districts; suburban Reorganization; International Students; Flat Grants;

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