



SPRING 2016

Signals

The Newsletter of the
Signal Hill Education Foundation

Our Mission:

To insure continuing financial support for the Signal Hill School to enhance the strength of the region by providing exceptional opportunities for intellectual discovery for all members of the Signal Hill Community

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Lambert reflects on terrific career at SHS

By Garen Vartanian *SHEF Board Member*

For nine years, Suzette Lambert and Signal Hill School have fit together hand in glove. That time, however, is coming to a conclusion, as Lambert will retire as the Superintendent of Signal Hill School District 181 at the close of the school year.

“There are so many things I have enjoyed at Signal Hill,” said Lambert, who took over as SHS superintendent in July 2007. “First, I believe my entire career has been the enjoyment of the students we have been able to reach and teach. The pride you feel as a superintendent is no different from a classroom teacher, just a little further removed. Also, the excellent educators I have had the pleasure to be associated with. The staff at SHS is second to none. The accomplishments they make in education are outstanding. Finally, the wonderful people I have met while being a part of this great Signal Hill family.”

All in all, Signal Hill has flourished during Lambert’s tenure. With financial support from the Signal Hill Education Foundation (SHEF), the school has implemented a Spanish program and significantly improved its technological capabilities by adding Promethean Boards in every classroom, Chromebooks and charging carts to various classrooms, and upgrading teachers’ computers, among other notable accomplishments.

“During very difficult financial times for the State, we have remained financially stable,” Lambert said. “SHS has been awarded over \$1 million in competitive grants. This helped us to maintain all of our long-standing extra-curricular offerings—fine arts, band and choir and a talented and gifted program. We have been able to employ a full-time social worker who also teaches a leadership class.

The school building itself has seen many upgrades and improvements, and two Safe Routes to School grant awards of \$400,000 provided for our new walking trail and connecting sidewalks.”

Lambert is quick to praise others for the school’s successes.

“Over my nine years with Signal Hill School we have accomplished so much and I say ‘we’ because it truly is a combined effort of many,” she said. “Our principal, Mrs. (Kelly) West, for her leadership skills; the teachers for their never-ending desire to be the best teachers they can be; the parents for supporting this wonderful school; the Board of Education for all their support and foresight into making it all come together; our PTO for finding ways to be a part of the educational system; and, of course, SHEF for being a long-term support system for Signal Hill School and allowing the visions of the school to happen.”

Undoubtedly, Lambert will miss Signal Hill.

“Mostly, I will miss all the good times and good memories,” she said. “If I could just fold them up and put them in a book to pull out every once in a while, that would be great.”

Save the Dates-

Saturday, April 23rd: Willy Wonka Preview Party at The Abbey at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th: Willy Wonka performances





GET YOUR GOLDEN TICKET TO THE SHEF PREVIEW PARTY

The “Willy Wonka” Preview Party will start at 6:30 p.m. **Saturday, April 23rd** at The Abbey, 5801 W. Main St., Belleville. At 7:30 p.m., students will provide a sneak peek into Signal Hill’s 51st annual play production, “Willy Wonka”. This is the first time SHS will perform this historic play. Then, at 8 p.m., the band Soul Shake will entertain attendees.

Cost is \$35 per ticket, which includes appetizers as well as wine and chocolate pairings. Additionally, four levels of sponsorship are available:

- \$ 300+ - “Top Hat Sponsor”
- \$ 250 - “Golden Ticket Sponsor”
- \$ 100 - “Wonka Bar Sponsor”
- \$ 50 - “Gobstopper Sponsor”

Proceeds from the preview party go directly to future performances and the SHS 8th grade play program.

For general information about the preview party please contact Beth Lenz at 398-4496.

For preview party tickets or sponsorships, please visit the SHEF website at www.shefinfo.org or below.

Willy Wonka play dates are Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th. Contact the school office for ticket sales.

**Yes, We Will Attend
The Preview Party:**



Saturday, April 23rd

Name: _____

of reservations @ \$35.00 each: _____

Total: \$ _____

☐ No, we/I can not attend, but please accept the enclosed donation.

- ☐ \$300 + – Top Hat Sponsor
- ☐ \$250 – Golden Ticket
- ☐ \$100 – Wonka Bar Sponsor
- ☐ \$50 – Gobstopper Sponsor

*Please send reservations, donations and payments on or before April 15 to:
Signal Hill Education Foundation, 40 Signal Hill Place, Belleville, IL 62223, or you
can drop off your reservation / donation during regular school hours.*