

## Norwood Highlights

**BY MRS. SANDRA COLBERT**  
353-9973

Norwood-Norfolk High School, which will be 30 years old in January, celebrated National Educational Week last week.

To mark the occasion, we spoke with School Superintendent Theodore Wodzinski, High School Principal Carl Sullivan, and Norwood Elementary Principal Charles Hayes.

We also spoke to secretaries Mrs. Hazen, Mrs. Hager, Mrs. Moore, and Mrs. LaPlanche.

Today 817 students are enrolled and a teaching staff of 36 teachers, one librarian, one school nurse, one attendance clerk, four teacher aides, two guidance counselors, three administrators, eight secretarial-clerical positions, seven cafeteria personnel, 23 bus drivers and mechanics, and ten custodians staff the high school.

The Norwood Elementary School, constructed near 1885, has 400 pupils. Their staff includes 17 classroom teachers, one special education teacher, one music teacher, one art, gym, speech, library, etc. one full-time school nurse, one general aide, five cafeteria personnel and three custodians.

There are 250 Norwood residents attending evening classes this year through the (AEIOU) Adult and Community Education Program.

Theodore (Ted) Wodzinski, Superintendent of the Norwood-Norfolk School District, resides at 134 North Main St., in Norwood with his wife, Barbara.

The couple have six grown children, Christopher, Susan, Mark, Joseph, Daniel and David. Mrs. Wodzinski is employed as assistant purchasing and personnel manager at the Potsdam Paper Corp.

Wodzinski, a mathematics and physics major, received his bachelors degree at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis and Northern Michigan University; his masters degree in school administration at the University of Michigan and Northern Michigan University. He continued his education at Michigan State University and Niagara University.

He has filled the position as superintendent for the Norwood-Norfolk School District for the past four and one-half years. Prior to moving to Norwood he had been continually employed in the field of education. He taught math and physics; was high school principal in Stambaugh, Mich. and later in Lewiston-Porter, N.Y. He held the position of assistant superintendent in West Iron County, Mich. as superintendent in Bates Township School, Mich. and in North Collins, N.Y.

Wodzinski's philosophy is as follows:

"As a Chief School Officer my most important function is to help people work together toward common goals which have been developed with input from all elements of our community. The primary focus of any school must be to improve the educational program for our young people, but schools also bear a responsibility for providing services to the entire community whenever possible.

With our children, we have a responsibility to each to provide them with good basic skills. Equally important is that we develop young people with respect and to help each find his or her strengths and build upon them. A child's strength may be in academics; it may be in industrial arts; it may be in music or art; it may be in sports or student government. The key is to have good teachers and coaches who can identify these strengths and build upon them. We are fortunate at Norwood-Norfolk to have many dedicated professionals on our staff.

"As an individual, what pleases me most at Norwood-Norfolk over the past four and one-half years is the way in which our board, staff, community and students have worked together to make our school a little better each year. Schools don't improve with a drum roll and fanfare. They improve by everyone working just a little harder toward common goals. By doing this we have been able to improve our facilities, our instructional programs, our student discipline, our sports program, and our support services such as transportation, lunch program, clerical, adult education, maintenance and several other areas. We still have much to do.

"If we have a credo or guidelines to summarize our philosophy here it could be summarized in two short phrases to our staff: "Treat every child as you would have your child treated" and "Let's all work a little harder together to make this school a little better place to live and to learn."

When calling Mr. Wodzinski in the central office located on the second floor in the high school building one will hear the voice of his secretary, Mrs. Cheryl Hazen. Mrs. Hazen, a graduate of NNCS, lives on Woodland Drive in Raymondville with her husband and twin daughters. Her husband, Jon, teaches eighth-grade social studies at Norwood-Norfolk High School.

Norman Koslofsky, Principal of the Norwood-Norfolk High School resides at Route 1, Norwood with his wife, Gloria, and their three young children.

Koslofsky received his bachelors degree at the State University of Albany and his masters degree at Hofstra University.

He joined the staff at Norwood-Norfolk High School in 1978. His views are as follows:

"Students tend to rise to the expectations schools have of them. For too many years we lowered our standards generally in education and, consequently, got poor behavior and academic results.

"Over the last few years in Norwood-Norfolk we have raised our expectations, in effect telling students that we had faith in them to do better. They have responded to that positively in both discipline and classwork. We intend to continue maintaining these standards so that we can give our students the opportunity to use their talents and abilities to the utmost."

Prior to his position at Norwood-Norfolk High School, he taught social

studies; was secondary principal at Kelliher, Minn.; principal at Eastwood Jr. High School in Syracuse, N.Y.; principal in African Rd. Jr. High School in Vestal, N.Y.; and assistant in secondary education in Syracuse, N.Y.

He is currently serving as President of the Norwood Kiwanis Club. Joseph (Carl) Sullivan, Assistant

Principal at the high school resides at 27 Clark St., Norwood, with his wife, Sheila, and their three children.

He studied for his masters degree at Potsdam State University and did post graduate studies at St. Lawrence University.

Sullivan has been employed with the NNCS district for the past 15 years where he taught music for ten years.

He enjoys music and has had a few pieces published.

"This is my fifth year in administration. I enjoy it very much," says Sullivan. His main responsibilities are to supervise and evaluate teachers and to enforce student discipline when necessary.

This can be difficult, explains Sullivan. "Individuals are different and what may be punishment for one is not for another. The public does not always understand this."

He believes homework can make the difference. "Discipline starts really early in the home. It is a sequential

thing, parents must be fair and consistent.

"We have an excellent staff, teachers who really care, and the students are responding. The student body is becoming more self-

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