

Christa McAuliffe was many things to many people. She has left a lasting impression on education in New Hampshire. She approached every task with enthusiasm and energy and had the special ability to spark the interest of others and to direct that energy.

In the three years that she spent as a ninth grade English teacher at Bow Memorial School, she left her mark: on the curriculum, on the teachers' association, on the administration of the school, and on the students and teachers with whom she worked. She served as BEA president, helped institute the Faculty Advisory Committee, and led the implementation of a discipline code for this school of 400 students, grades 5-9.

Christa joined the Social Studies department at Concord High School with the same vigor. She was involved in a variety of activities, such as a Faculty Search Committee, Curriculum Committee, and the Faculty Advisory Council. She brought her students to New Hampshire Closeup, Youth in Government, and Washington Closeup, teaching them the excitement and rewards of participating in the democratic decision-making process. She designed a "History of American Women" course that became part of the curriculum in her second year at Concord High.

Christa included her own children in activities at Concord High, occasionally bringing them to class, letting them help her judge events during a Homecoming rally, and enrolling her daughter in the Child Care Program's day care center. Early morning would see Christa arriving at school with books and papers in one arm, four year old Caroline in the other.

Christa contributed to Social Studies education at the state level through her membership on the Executive Board of the New Hampshire Council for the Social Studies. She served as a delegate to the National Council Assembly at the 1983 and 1984 Conventions.

Christa McAuliffe was future oriented. She helped her students develop skills for dealing with the future, through her classroom teaching and the model she presented in her other activities. She saw problems as challenges and had a clear vision of how to work for effective change.

Carol Mulligan

NOTE (Carol Mulligan is a teacher at Bow Memorial School and is also a member of the NHCSS Executive Board.)