



August 31, 2018

Good evening, welcome to Friday Night Lights on Bradley Field. I'm Woodside High School Principal Diane Burbank.

In 2008, as part of Woodside High School's 50th Anniversary, the school installed a Community Hall of Fame to recognize alumni, retired staff, or community members. Tonight is the 11th year and our inductee checks all of those categories: alumni, retired staff, and a community member. Nominations for the Hall of Fame are considered based on leadership, integrity, positive contributions, overcoming obstacles.

Last spring, nomination forms were available on campus and through our website. An ad-hoc group from Shared Decision Making Council including myself, a teacher, a community member, and three students reviewed the nominations and recommended one nomination for induction tonight.

A dozen Wildcats have been recognized over 11 years – graduates, coaches, teachers, volunteers. Exceptional people, all of them! Two of them join me tonight:

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| 1. Dr Don Bunce | generously both the Athletic Booster Organization and Academy mentor. |
| 2. Rich Kelley | |
| 3. Renel Brooks Moon | 10. John Naber |
| 4. Jack Mather | 11. Dave Crevelt |
| 5. Dani Gasparini | 12. 2017 Karen Peterson – here tonight, |
| 6. William Guttormsen | welcome to the orange carpet, |
| 7. Paul D Williams | recognized as the original Lady in |
| 8. Jim Luttrell | Orange for her volunteer efforts in |
| 9. 2013 Frank York – here tonight, , | drama, SDMC, and alumni basketball |
| welcome to the orange carpet Frank | game |
| volunteered tirelessly and supported | |

Congrats to our past inductees and I know they join me in welcoming 2018 Hall of Fame inductee, Dr. Jim Lianides. Jim, please come forward to the orange carpet. Jim is joined by family and friends in the home stands.

In 1971, the year that Jim roamed the Woodside halls as a senior,

- NPR broadcast for the first time.
- Disney World opened in Florida.
- Movie ticket was \$1.50.
- Voting age was lowered from 21 to 18.



- Intel invented the first micro-processor and soft contact lenses became available.
- Cigarette ads were banned from TV.
- Simon and Garfunkel's "Like a Bridge Over Troubled Water" was the song of the year.
- And Woodside beat Sequoia in the Redwood City Rumble in 1971.

Yes, Jim attended WHS from 1968-71 when enrollment was well-over 2000 and campus didn't have two gyms, the PAC, or the I wing or J wing – where did everyone fit?

-He excelled in cross country, note the yearbook pics!

-He graduated from Woodside and attended Cal Berkeley, note his senior portrait.

-Jim's first teaching position was in his RWC hometown at Garfield Elementary.

-Jim emerged as a talented educator who was committed to equity, and began taking greater leadership roles in school settings as middle school principal and then in district office settings as "the money guy" and finally, as superintendent in his hometown of RWC where he served for seven years at the Sequoia District helm. He focused on data, on stable budgets, and on planning early for enrollment growth where his fondness for his alma mater burned bright! In his leadership tenure with our district, he made possible the funding for a lasting legacy of WHS first-rate facilities...

- The new I wing
- The newest J wing
- The refurbished Bradley Field entrance, track, and turf
- The culinary program rooms
- The ceramics room opening in a few weeks
- And the hidden internet infra-structure to make it all work
- And for me... all the pumpkin cream Woodside orange paint that I could buy for stripes, doors, and logos.

From his nominator, staff member Jenny Bratton: "Dr. Lianides faithfully demonstrates Woodside's 8 conditions of success, especially being a role model of professional leadership and service."

From a community perspective: As a Sequoia Awards Board Member – distributing hundreds of scholarships based on service to students residing within RWC.

From a rival school leader, Sequoia Principal Sean Priest: “Quietly and strategically, he has championed every kid in our district to have broad opportunities while attending our schools – and beyond!”

From a WHS teacher perspective, science department chair Jill Baumgartel taught Jim’s sons at WHS: “Jim Lianides led the district with thoughtful intelligence. He is a kind and caring gentleman. His support for teachers was exceptional, and inspired all of us to deliver our best.”

From a WHS student perspective, last year’s student school board rep from WHS, Ria Calcagno: “Dr. Lianides is a special person. I had the pleasure of working with him over the course of my two years representing Woodside High on the district Student Advisory Council. Initially, the thought of working with a superintendent—and having to dole out constructive criticism of his or her district as part of my responsibilities—was intimidating! But from the very first Council meeting, Dr. Lianides was calm and caring. Like a favorite professor, he was thoughtful and reasoned, intelligent and instructive. He always made a point to spend time with us, showing us through his actions that we students were truly his highest priority. At the end of his tenure as superintendent, he appointed me district Student Trustee to work with the new superintendent and the board the following year. He trusted that I would serve the district well despite the constraints of my illness. From one Wildcat to another, I want to say that I hope I did him proud. I and the rest of the students of the district congratulate him on this well deserved recognition of his legacy.”

Jim, here’s the plaque that is an exact duplicate of the one already hanging in the PAC side lobby alongside the other 12 WHS Hall of Fame inductees. Your entourage of family and friends is invited to check it out after the ceremony.

Wildcat fans, help me celebrate Class of 1971 Wildcat, retired superintendent, and valued RWC community member, and now Hall of Fame inductee, Dr. Jim Lianides.

Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat!

