



Danny Carpenter is a retired educator who served 33 1/2 years in the Houston County School System. Upon retirement, Danny was recognized and honored with proclamations from the City of Perry, the City of Warner Robins, the Georgia House of Representatives, and the Governor of Georgia. He was honored with the naming of “Danny Carpenter Drive” in Kathleen by the Houston County Board of Commissioners.

In 1969, Danny graduated from Northside High School where he wrestled and played baseball and football. Despite a knee injury during his senior year, he signed a football scholarship to the University of Georgia from where he graduated. After a brief stint working in Bibb County, Danny went to work at Tabor Junior High as a coach and teacher. In 1975, he began coaching at Northside High eventually becoming head football coach and Athletic Director there in 1980-81. During these years, Danny earned a master’s degree from what is now Georgia Southwestern State University and a Specialists Degree from the University of Georgia.

Following a career in coaching, Danny became the principal at Pearl Stephens Alternative School which evolved into a drop-out prevention center. He later was a co-creator of the Elberta Open Campus High School establishing both a Parenting Program and the STARS Program,

which focused on community service, and also facilitated the first credit recovery program in Houston County Schools. Elberta Open Campus was a model for state of Georgia.

Danny helped create and was a founding member of the Alternative School Association for the state of Georgia. He served on the State Superintendent’s Advisory Committee and other various state committees. His continuing interest in and concern for at-risk youth led to his position as Director of Alternative Programs in Houston County Schools, during which time, he developed the Houston County Crossroads Center. Instrumental in creating the Houston County Career & Technology Center, now named the Houston County Career Academy, he worked with the Middle Georgia Technical College, now Central Georgia Technical College or CGTC, President to create one of the first dual enrollment programs with technical colleges in the state of Georgia.

In 2002, Danny became the Executive Director of Secondary Operations in the Central Office of the HCBOE and was selected as the Interim Superintendent for the school system in July of 2003. Later that year, he was appointed Superintendent and served in that position for the next four years. During that time, he received, among other awards, the Sherrill Stafford Good Government Service Award by the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce and, also, an Outstanding Communicator Award by the National School Public Relations Association. He also served on various boards in Houston County including HODAC, Houston Drug Action Council, the Health Department, and co-chaired the last two Houston County SPLOST efforts.

Currently, Danny serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Central Georgia Technical College and also serves on the Houston County Planning and Zoning Board. Outside of civic service, he enjoys taking care of the pond and various projects at home in south Houston County. When the weather and his time allows, he fishes for bass, crappie, bream, catfish, and is currently pursuing the art of fly fishing. He and his wife, Shawn, also a graduate of NHS and retired educator, garden together and love to travel, visiting new places as much as possible. They are members of Perry United Methodist Church and they have three adult children, Brian Carpenter, Jake Carpenter, and Katie Wilkerson, three young grandsons, Carter, Abram, and Bo David Wilkerson - and a bulldog mix canine, Layla.

What does Northside High School mean to you?

NHS has been a caring educational environment which has supported me and all its community.

When I think of the NHS community, I think of the individuals who have made huge impacts on who I am...starting with Matt Arthur, football coach, principal, superintendent and role model to many in the Northside Community. His legacy continues to live through the hardwork and dedication of the caring professionals who walk the halls of NHS and who use their influences to make a better future for everyone who enters this learning institution!

The Northside Nation possesses palpable pride and success in all areas of student life, academia, and extra-curricular activities. My association as a student and coach/teacher at NHS continues, to this day, to be the foundation of my beliefs and who I am personally and professionally. To be a Northside Eagle, is indeed special.