

Hi my name is Ariana Jeske and I am interviewing Mr. Lindberg. Today's date is December 27. The interview will focus on him being a superintendent at National Mine School.

Me: Where and when were you born?

Mr. Lindberg: I was born in Ishpeming, December, 20 1926.

Me: What is your full name?

Mr. Lindberg: Kenneth D. Lindberg

Me: Who were your parents?

Mr. Lindberg: My mother's name was Matilda Austin, and my father's name was Edward W. Lindberg.(?)

Me: Who are your siblings?

Mr. Lindberg: I have one brother, still living, whose name is Walter and two deceased sisters, Edna and Doris (?) and a deceased brother Austin.

Me: Where did you live when you grew up?

Mr. Lindberg: I lived in Ishpeming, city of Ishpeming.

Me: When did you become the superintendent at National Mine?

Mr. Lindberg: I think 1964.

Me: Did you have any other careers before that?

Mr. Lindberg: I worked through my high school years in a grocery store. In college years I worked in a clothing store, and in the summers I worked for the Heisman and Mike(?) Construction Company. Then I worked for CCI for a couple years.

Me: What duties did your job consist of?

Mr. Lindberg: You mean superintendent?

Me: Yes.

Mr. Lindberg: The superintendent oversees the entire school district, professional and nonprofessional staff both.

Me: Describe an average day as a superintendent.

Mr. Lindberg: Well I'd always get to work before others would get there to get things going. So I'd get to work the latest 7:15 and I worked till around 5. I felt it was the superintendent's job to be there when things were taking place and be there when teachers had problems.

Me: How were unruly children disciplined?

Mr. Lindberg: The main way of was contact the parents and let them what was going on in school, and if it was very serious have them come up and talk to them in person, otherwise a phone conversation most of the time clear up the problem. It was different 20 or 30 years ago.

Me: Who do remember the most from your career?

Mr. Lindberg: Well, I wouldn't say there is anyone who stands out I enjoyed my position as superintendent , it gave you a chance to oversee the curriculum and make changes that would be for the best of the children, you were on top of what happened in the classroom and the overall picture, and the student progressing through the school.

Me: Were there any special programs at National Mine?

Mr. Lindberg: The outstanding program they were noted for was the musical that the music teacher put on. That was the outstanding thing that everyone talked about with National Mine school district. Oh thats where those marvelous plays are at Christmas time.

Me: How many children were at National Mine during your career?

Mr. Lindberg:I think I have it written down, in 1957 when I first started out there as a teacher\principal there were 286. My last year as superintendent there was 377 so there was an increase of population during that time.

Me: How many teachers were employed at National Mine?

Mr. Lindberg: At that time they're 12 teachers.

Me:What do you remeber most about being a superintendent at National Mine?

Mr. Lindberg:Well the thing I remember most is in a small school district there's more the

parents are closer to the school and more interested in what's happening to their children, so I believe that was the reason.

Me: Is there anything you would change about being a superintendent during your career?

Mr. Lindberg: In the larger part(?) the lack of money to do the things that you wanted to do. So what you do is budget and plan to accomplish things without having the resources that you need.

Me: How did National Mine change during your career?

Mr. Lindberg: Well in population the township changed it became there was growth in the south end of Tilden School District. The Tilden School District combined (?) with Ely School District, those children came from National Mine School, and that area grew quite rapidly, with the increase of students we had more money to operate.

Me: What year did you retire?

Mr. Lindberg: I retired in 1988, from the NICE School District. ~~That would have been~~ when National Mine, Champion, Ishpeming Township, and Ely merged. } no consolidation was 1974

Me: What degrees do you hold to be able to be a superintendent?

Mr. Lindberg: What grade?

Me: What degrees?

Mr. Lindberg: You have to have a masters degree in education.

Me: When did you graduate from high school?

Mr. Lindberg: In 1945.

Me: What college did you attend?

Mr. Lindberg: I attended Northern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Eastern Illinois University, Michigan State University, and the University of Michigan.

Me: How has public opinion of educators changed?

Mr. Lindberg: Public opinion of educators I think is that people do not respect their educators as they previously had because people are wanting a fall guy to

blame education's problems on when many problems of education stem from the home and parental control. If you don't have parental control how can you have control in high school of the children and other children, it is relative to how you can discipline them.

Me: How have methods of administration changed?

Mr. Lindberg: Well the computer is the biggest change. Everything is computerized and it has made financial part of education much easier to ~~per~~ perform. And also ~~accomplish~~ programming them to accomplish much more easily the computer. The computer is the biggest change.

Me: How do you feel about National Mine closing?

Mr. Lindberg: You mean closing the school?

Me: Yes.

Mr. Lindberg: I wasn't aware that they were going to close the ~~school~~ old building. I thought they were going to have elementary school there.

Me: They're building the new school over there for K-8.

Mr. Lindberg: That isn't the ^{just} middle school. ^{well} It's a good move. It'll really utilize teachers better also it'll save ^{you} money on busing. Financially there'll be some savings. Which can be put into the educationally programming. Which you're always looking for ways to improve your school.

Me: What advice would you give to teachers and students today?

Mr. Lindberg: Well the students they want to get as much out of their education as they can. Because the world is becoming more and more specialized and ~~not~~ if you don't have the background you can't ~~get the~~ ~~jobs~~ going to get the jobs you get the medical jobs. But you won't get ~~the~~ good jobs that pay decent salaries as far as teachers are concerned person shouldn't go into teaching unless they love the children.

Mr. Lindberg: and give some of themselves not just the hours from 8-3 but additional hours have to be given than they used to be in the past and in order for education + "resid." the past and in order for

me: What makes National Mine special to

Mr. Lindberg: The kids out there ~~are~~ ^{were} a good group the parents were cooperative. I made a wholesome relationship between the school and parents and children.

me: What were your starting wages as a superintendent?

Mr. Lindberg: I think it's in here. I would guess at that time when I started teaching I was getting \$1800 dollars a year. It could've been much more than \$7,000 (or several thousand) at ~~year~~ that time.

me: Did the public sway any of your choices as a superintendent?

Mr. Lindberg: No, I don't think there was our gains were the same.

me: Did finances play a role in desiciding?

Mr. Lindberg: Yes alot. Couldn't start anything without asking where's the money going come from are you going to cut something and a programs or are you going squeeze it in and not get a decent test of it because you don't have enough

me: money. What do you like best about National Mine?

Mr. Lindberg: In a small school district there's a ^{more} close ness ~~of~~ between teachers and administration and ^{the} parents and it results you can accompli more.

Me: How did students change from the beginning of your career to the end?

Mr. Lindberg: Children had more respect for their teachers, had more respect for their parents. and as a result teaching was easier then, a child knew if he goofed off in school he wasn't going to be cheered for it at home you got a good scolding and some other punishment his actions in school. We had total support from parents.

Me: Was school called off more or less than today?

Mr. Lindberg: I would say about the same, I lived in town I figured that if I could ^{to get} get out to the school, school could go it on a stormy day I'd leave here about a quarter to seven, if I could get out there by seven o'clock and the roads weren't too bad school ^{went} would go on. at that time the superintendent called school off.

Me: Did parental support change during your career?

Mr. Lindberg: Yes it lessened. Parents are more concerned about other things that they are about the education of the child. I think the parents feel as though we the schools do it. and results are that they don't ~~know~~ ^{aren't aware of} ~~where~~ or what's happening in the programming.

Mr. Lindberg: and so forth they're busy with their work and ~~they're~~ their recreation.

Me: Describe the consolidation effort and your part in it.

Mr. Lindberg: I was in favor of consolidation because bringing our school district together. We could offer more programs without exceptions and things originally you could provide good education but you couldn't provide all many things that a larger school district could get. So I thought that we had to consolidate so I encouraged the board and the parents and told them all about the ~~route~~ ^{way} to go would be consolidation.

Me: Since the superintendent makes recommendations to the school board to hire teachers what kind of qualities & qualifications did you look for in a teacher?

Mr. Lindberg: Looked for someone who had good knowledge in subject matter in the field that their going to teach. Looked for someone who ^{they} had a intrest in children. aside from just wanting to teach children. ~~Real~~ you'd know a true wanting to be with them. Because some people take a job for money and teaching isn't a job you take for money. 8

Mr. Lindberg. You should take it because you love children.

Me. What are the teachers that stand out in your memory and why?

Mr. Lindberg. Well they don't stand out in memory they're all good teachers. They all had their own individual characteristics. ~~They're all good teachers~~ And they've made them good teachers. But I couldn't separate any of them out without saying. I bet there were a better teacher they all were. ~~They were one.~~ The staff did a good job in the pick. intrest of the children. So I wouldn't

Me. Which students stand out in your memory and why?

Mr. Linberg. Many students I've followed their careers and know what they are doing. Mainly because they get their name in a paper when they do something or met a challenge and overcome it or they acquired a new position or you hear from the parents which checks? my son has done this and that. But many many successful kids have graduated from National Mine. I couldn't I'd have to give you a list of 20 30 to mention by name.

Me: How did you evaluate the performance of teachers?

Mr. Lindberg: By classroom observation, also general observation of teachers in the school building.

Me: Who and when did you marry?

Mr. Lindberg: Married in 1950 to Marriane Glosset.

Me: What children did you have?

Mr. Lindberg: We had two boys Ian and Scott.

Me: Explain what you are doing now that you are retired?

Mr. Lindberg: I enjoy walking walk four miles a day keep in shape cross country ski. I attend Ishpeming basketball games mainly because my boys attended there and ~~we~~ took a interest in basket ball ~~we~~ since its been years since they played. We do a lot of vacation we to Hawaii for a month now in January and February. We take vacation to Florida and to Southern California. we go to visit my retirement is full of vacationing. Enjoying life.

me: That's all the questions I have
Thank you for your time.