

North Boone

Community Unit School District 200

Staff Spotlight: Kenneth R. Washburn, Sr.

In this edition of Staff Spotlight, we catch up Ken Washburn, the district's grounds / maintenance person. In that role, Ken is often asked to do a little bit of everything, which is something he is familiar with after spending 22 1/2 years in the US Navy. This year, the staff spotlights will focus on veterans and Ken has the longest service among the former veterans on the North Boone Staff.

Ken spent 22 1/2 years in the navy and retired as a chief petty officer navy counselor. He had originally served in the Navy's construction battalions known as the SeaBees. It was in that role that he served in Vietnam. He spent 16 years as a navy counselor where his role was to assist other sailors to avail themselves of the educational opportunities the navy could provide.

Ken originally came to North Boone as an assistant custodian at NBUE in 2009. After custodial reductions in 2010, Ken returned to North Boone as a bus aide and a substitute bus driver. In 2012, he moved into the grounds position that he currently holds. Ken attended both Tulsa Community College in Tulsa, OK and Elgin Community College here in Illinois.



Ken Washburn and his wife, Janet, shortly after his promotion to chief petty officer

Ken's favorite part of the job is working with the other people at North Boone. The worst part of his job is "mowing when it rains just about every day." He would like the community to know that the North Boone Bus Drivers go out of their way to ensure that the students are transported in a safe and timely manner and are some of the best in Boone County.

Besides his wife of 43 years, Janet, Ken's family includes two granddaughters who graduated from North Boone High School. It is a honor for North Boone to be able to employ veterans like Ken, who even after many years of military service, have a desire to continue to serve their community.

North Boone Community Unit School District 200 serves approximately 1,750 students in pre-school through high school in the Villages of Caledonia, Capron, and Poplar Grove as well as the northern tier of unincorporated Boone County, Illinois. For more information visit the NBCUSD website at www.nbcusd.org or contact the district office at 815-765-3322.