

Ann Massoglia

Ann graduated from the University of Wisconsin Whitewater in December of 1978 with a Bachelors of Science Education Degree in Communicative Disorders. Two years later, in 1980 she earned her masters degree. Ann has been at Barrie Elementary School since February of 1980 as Speech & Language Pathologist.

The following Class Mission Statement is displayed on Ann's classroom wall: "Successful academic, social, emotional, and cognitive growth of all children requires proper communication skills. The Speech-Language Class at Barrie Elementary School teaches skills that empower children to communicate effectively in a variety of communication settings. This is facilitated through a caring, open, accessible, and positive environment." Ann lives by this mission. It encompasses her philosophy in not only the importance of what she is teaching her students but how she will accomplish and meet with successful outcomes. Effective communication skills impact students in every aspect of their lives. Many of our students have delays or deficits in these innate skills and require a facilitator or coach, if you will, to instill strategies that will either eliminate the deficit or close the gap with their peers. Ann's work in enhancing the communication skills of her students increases their ability to access learning and develop friendships.

Ann sees that it is her job to properly identify students' strengths and weaknesses, design effective intervention plans, seek and involve parents who along with Ann can then monitor student responses to intervention and hopefully a successful outcome. Her successful students are those who then are able to socialize, express their needs/wants, and learn because of their increased speech and learning skills.

From John Peterson, Director of Pupil Services, "What makes Mrs. Massoglia's interactions with her students even more impressive is that she has been providing speech and language services in the general education classroom long before inclusion became fashionable. The beauty of this approach is that students without speech delays are receiving indirect benefit from the skills that Mrs. Massoglia reinforces with her speech students. Furthermore, Mrs. Massoglia models skills and activities that the teacher can use for all the students in the classroom."

Kris England, a colleague and second grade teacher at Barrie writes, "Ann and I have been teaching together for the past nine year at Barrie

Elementary School. She and I have been able to partner our teaching abilities to best serve the needs of all my second grade speech and language children. She is always looking for the best and newest ways to enhance her lessons and make them meaningful and motivated for her students. I have watched Ann foster creativity with a high degree of skill in my classroom as she works with students.”

From Professor Patricia Casey of the University of Wisconsin Whitewater, she writes, “Ann is a leader with vision and intelligence. Her students discover the real world connections between their interests and needs and other parts of their lives. She goes “above and beyond the call of duty” when assisting parents with the many challenges of having a child with exceptional educational needs.”