



Erich Thurow / D200 Ed Foundation column for TWI – For publication week of January 30, 2017

The District 200 Education Foundation is proud to announce that the 2017 Sue Palmore Award of Excellence recipient is John Van Fleet, former Woodstock High School Athletic Director and current volunteer at both high schools.

Since his retirement, John has given countless hours working at games and events at both Woodstock High School and Woodstock North High School. In addition, John is very active in the Illinois Athletic Directors Association where he has volunteered many hours to teach and mentor Athletic Directors throughout the state.

John van Fleet's nomination was endorsed by current Athletic Directors Glen Wilson at Woodstock High School and Brady Stromquist at Woodstock North High School, as well as Brady's predecessor Nic Kearfott. All three noted John's commitment to high school athletics, helping students, and to helping all Illinois athletic directors do the best job possible. In his letter of nomination, Stromquist noted, "He has spent his entire life working with high school athletics and athletic directors. His goal was simple – make sure the student athletes have the best experience possible. He inspires me to do that for our kids as well."

During her time as a member of both the District 200 Board of Education and the District 200 Education Foundation, Sue Palmore exemplified service to her community. Following her death in 2012, the District 200 Education Foundation Board wanted to find a way to honor Sue's legacy of serving the children and families of District 200, and so renamed the Foundation's Award of Excellence the "Sue Palmore Award of Excellence." Each year, the award is given to a recipient who has shown exemplary service to the students and staff of District 200.

The award will be presented at this year's Groundhog Day Dinner and Auction – Saturday, February 11, 2017 at the Starline Factory in Harvard, Illinois. Tickets for the event are available on the Foundation's website at <http://d200edfoundation.org> and at the D200 District Office. Tickets are \$60/person (increasing to \$65/person February 2)