



## District 200 Education Foundation

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Contact: Tony Casalino  
(815) 338-1690  
or  
Barbara Banker  
(815) 337-5147

### **Bud Swartout To Receive 1<sup>st</sup> Excellence Award**

The first annual Award of Excellence will be presented by the District 200 Education Foundation to former Woodstock High School teacher and coach Harlow "Bud" Swartout on January 29 at the Foundation's fundraising dinner.

Bud began his career at WHS in 1954 as a biology teacher and coach. For the next 37 years, he influenced an estimated 5,000 students and athletes in Woodstock who came through his classes or who were members of his teams in football, track and basketball. Bud retired from WHS in 1991. Nominated by a former student James Hicks, who himself became a high school science teacher, and supported by many others who wrote letters on his behalf, it is clear to the Foundation that the quality education provided to WHS students by Mr. Swartout was unparalleled.

In his nomination letter, Hicks chronicled Bud's contributions to students in the classroom, through his work as an assistant football coach, track coach, basketball coach and athletic trainer as well as his work as an "unofficial counselor" and volunteer to the WHS athletic program and the community. According to Hicks, "His time commitment to the total education of every student was staggering. The dedication to quality education and his involvement with students across the board has been and always will be a source of inspiration for all of us."

The Award of Excellence is the latest award and recognition to be received by Mr. Swartout. He was elected to the IHSA Football Assistant Coaches Hall of Fame in 1995 and the WHS Athletics Hall of Fame in 1996. The press box on the WHS football field is named in his honor. In a letter of support, retired WHS teacher and coach Jim Patton added, "His contributions to Woodstock High School have been admired by many. His impact on students and athletes has spanned the generations."

Foundation chairman Rick Amundsen has announced the group will present the award at this year's Groundhog Day Dinner and Auction on Saturday, January 29 at D'Andrea Banquets and Conference Center in Crystal Lake. Tickets for the event are available at the District 200 Administration Office at 227 W. Judd Street. Tickets for the event are \$50 per person which includes dinner. The event will begin at 5:30 pm. For more information, visit <http://www.woodstockschools.org/district-200-education-foundation> or call 815/ 337-5406.