

Attachment to JCSD Form 607

Detailed Reason for Request:

Jamie Burton Scott (1961-2012) was a native of the Illinois Valley where Lorna Byrne Middle School (LBMS) is located. He joined the staff of Three Rivers School District (TRSD) in 1986, just six years after graduating from Illinois Valley High School. Jamie was employed with TRSD for 26 years and nine months (27 school years). Jamie worked as Head Custodian at LBMS, and he took great pride in caring for and maintaining the school. The staff became his extended family over the years, as did the students. For 15 of his years there, Jamie coached basketball. The LBMS gym is synonymous with Jamie Scott. It is a fact that Jamie shot and made the last basket in the old gym before it collapsed, a 3-pointer. It is also a fact that Jamie shot and made the first basket in the new gym, again a 3-pointer. He spent countless hours in the gym working with students to share with them his love of the game and teach them valuable skills, both basketball-related and life-related. He saw coaching as his opportunity to be a mentor in the students' lives, especially for those that perhaps had no others. One past student, Jeff Preston recently shared, "This man was truly a good person. I remembered being bullied and picked on one day (was a normal thing). He took the time out of his day to just talk to me and give me advice. I had never had that. A stranger that seemed to care. I will always remember that. I'm sad to never had the chance to thank him as an adult." This is just one of well over one thousand remarks Jamie's family has received in the last week. Current students, past students, previous LBMS staff, and current staff are showing an overwhelming amount of support in favor of the "Jamie Scott Memorial Gymnasium". On September 4th of this year, LBMS began its first day of the 2012-2013 school year. Jamie was devastated that he could not be there. He said, it was one of the hardest things for him to deal with- not being there for the first day of school for the first time in 27 years. I respectfully request that the TRSD Board of Directors and the committee they appoint to this matter, give great consideration to this proposal. Jamie Scott was a loyal employee, a dedicated coach, and a caring individual. For a man that dedicated his entire adult life to LBMS, it seems the least we can give back to him in gratitude is dedicating the gymnasium to him. Thank you.