

Retiree Recognition

Eden Hall Upper Elementary School

*Ms. Melissa (Lupetin) Sullivan
School Guidance Counselor*

Ms. Melissa (Lupetin) Sullivan enjoyed being a guidance counselor in the Pine-Richland School District for 13 years. Six of those years, she served as a guidance counselor at Richland Elementary School. Later, she served in the same role at Eden Hall Upper Elementary School after it opened.

She says some of her most memorable highlights of Pine-Richland include outreach efforts she organized with the children including projects supporting Operation Troop Appreciation and the United Children's Fund in addition to relief programs that helped those who were in need following natural disasters such as tsunamis and hurricanes. She also worked with students to help families in poverty in Haiti, Guatemala and right here in the Pittsburgh area.

Prior to Pine-Richland she worked at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit as a traveling counselor in the nonpublic school division. In 2001, she earned the School Specialist of the Year Award for her work with adults and children in New York City following 9/11.

She earned a Master of Science in Education in School Counseling from Duquesne University; a Master of Science in Art Therapy from the University of Iowa and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Wisconsin.



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In addition, Ms. (Lupetin) Sullivan is certified as a Trauma School Specialist.

During retirement, she hopes to work full-time in her art studio in Shady Side and spend more time with her grown children and grandchildren.

She says she will miss the children and the wonderful friends she has made over the years.

"The children have lost everything," Ms. (Lupetin) Sullivan said. "When I brought in those violins, they had tears in their eyes. They said the violins will be a way to bring beauty back into their lives." - Post-Gazette Article (Nov. 27, 2005), that chronicled Ms. (Lupetin) Sullivan's visit with students in Mississippi, whose school was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. She took with her violins and supplies collected by students from Richland Elementary School.

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