

Cahokia Federation of Teachers Daisy Kennedy/Charles Prindable Memorial Scholarship

The Local 1272 Daisy Kennedy/Charles Prindable Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to one or more seniors. The scholarship may be used for a college education or for vocational training pursued on a full-time basis.

The scholarship is named for two dedicated educators from CUSD 187. Daisy Kennedy was an English and social studies teacher who began her career in 1951 in a 7th grade classroom at Chartrand. She went on to teach at the 'new' high school after it was completed where she was very active, directing plays, collaborating with her sister (CHS math teacher) on the union newsletter, and even walking the picket line in 1959.

Even after becoming an administrator, she supported the union and its officers. Daisy Kennedy's daughter, Vicki Wegener remembers, "She was always down to earth and did everything she could to support her teachers and their students. She was diagnosed with cancer at 57. I think she demonstrated a strength that her teachers admired during her 4 year battle. Although at that time most men did not respect a woman's opinion or ability to be in charge, Daisy was sought out by those men for advice and they usually did what she suggested. She loved teaching."

Amazingly, Mrs. Kennedy and her sister weren't the only Cahokia educators and union members in the family. Her husband was a business teacher, her daughter taught for 35 years in the district in the elementary and high school, her son-in-law taught at Wirth for 33 years. They were all proud CFT members who walked picket lines and were arrested.

The CFT scholarship is also named for Charles "Charlie" Prindable. Mr. Prindable actually worked for Daisy Kennedy. Mr. Prindable was not only a dedicated educator, he was a hard-working father of five. Friends and co-workers remember him working an extra job and said he was a very strong Catholic. His ethics and kindness were evident in his classroom and the way he interacted with students. Mr. Prindable was a proud and loyal CFT union member.