

2017 ELGSD Distinguished Alumni Recipients

Sponsored by the ELGHS Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America
(FCCLA)

Welcome to the 2017 Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah High School Homecoming Football game. As we cheer on our football team, we have the opportunity to cheer on two of ELGSD's alumni who will be receiving the ELGSD Distinguished Alumni Award. The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District prides itself on being a small district that thinks big. Both of these recipients have reflected that philosophy within their lives since their graduation from ELGHS. Please cheer loudly during the halftime recognition event during which Dr. Ann Buechel-Haack and Terri (Golbach) Laughlin will be presented with the first annual ELGSD Distinguished Alumni Award.

Dr. Ann Buechel-Haack

Doc Haack (as students call her) graduated from ELGHS in 1979 and earned her Bachelor's of Science degree from UW-Oshkosh in 1984 in Elementary Education and Learning Disabilities. In 1987, she earned her Master's of Science degree in Special Education/Learning Disabilities. In 2003, she earned her Masters in Educational Leadership from Marian University and in 2010 earned her PhD from Marian University in Educational Administration. She also has additional licenses of Director of Special Education/Pupil Services, Superintendent, School Business Administrator, Principal and Director of Instruction. After Dr. Haack earned her Elementary Education degree from UW-Oshkosh, she returned to the Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah community to teach 7th and 8th grade. During this time, she was awarded the prestigious Kohl Education Teacher Fellowship in 1993 and was also nominated for Wisconsin Teacher of the Year that same year. Dr. Haack continued to obtain licensures to meet the needs of the students and reduce costs to the district. She served as principal of the EL-G middle school and is currently the ELGSD District Administrator/Director of Pupil Services/Special Education. Her connection to the area and her passion for education have benefitted the district and the EL-G communities for the past 33 years. Her leadership helped the district to earn the Elkhart Lake Chamber Impact Award in 2016.

Her involvement in the community beyond her role as Superintendent includes being co-chair of Downtown night, Village Library Board member, EL-G Foundation Board member, Sheboygan County United Way Board Member, Sheboygan County Theatre Board of Directors-Secretary, Ladies of the Lake member, Midwest Council for Children with Disabilities Volunteer, and a long time blood donor. Dr. Haack believes that "if it is good for the students and the community, then it is something that should be done" and she does everything she can to find a way. Her role as a mentor and leader within the district and the community has improved the quality of life of students, staff, community members, and visitors. Dr. Haack feels her biggest contribution is "the mentoring, guidance, support and opportunities she has given to staff, students, and others. Seeing others grow and develop confidence in their abilities to go beyond what they thought they were capable of is the best feeling in the world," she says.

Terri (Golbach) Laughlin

Ms. Laughlin graduated from ELGHS in 1984 and from Syracuse University in 1988 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Her first career job was with American Trim Products, where she designed wholesale coordinated apparel packaging in the heart of the garment district of Manhattan. Later, she relocated to Greensboro, NC, where she was the lead designer of a Wholesale Giftware Company. She then joined Coyne Beahm Advertising Agency as an Art Director and was promoted to Senior Creative Director with national clients that included Lowe's, Hanes, Thomasville Furniture, Reynolds Tobacco and others.

When Ms. Laughlin became a mother, she started a home-based freelance business in which she designs products for major retailers. Her largest client is an outdoor decor company based in North Carolina for which she designs products for major retailers that include Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Lowe's, Target, Shopko and many more. She also works with major licenses, including Disney, Star Wars, Garfield, Duck Dynasty, and HGTV's Property Brothers. For the Property Brothers, she designs the outdoor accessories for their Scott Living brand, which launched several years ago and is doing very well. She also designed an exclusive line for them on QVC. As Ms. Laughlin states, "You'll never see or hear my name mentioned and I'll never be famous, but I get an enormous amount of pleasure knowing my designs are approved and respected by the Property Brothers."

Ms. Laughlin also contributed her time and talent to work with NASCAR's Petty family to help launch a summer camp called "The Victory Junction Camp" for children with chronic medical conditions and serious illnesses. She worked on the capital campaign effort to raise the money needed, attended the ground-breaking, and watched the first kids come through the gates. Today, that camp has hosted more than 20,000 children from all 50 states and all over the world. Ms. Laughlin's advice to current students is "Not all of us are gifted in the traditional fields, but many of us share our talents with the world by making it a more beautiful place."

Congratulations to Dr. Ann-Buechel Haack and Ms. Terri Laughlin on earning this prestigious award.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award

To nominate an ELGSD alumni for this award, go to the ELGSD website at www.elgs.k12.wi.us and click on "Distinguished Alumni Nominee Form". The 2018 nominations will be accepted until January 15th, 2018. For more information about the award, please contact Mrs. Beth Roehl, FCCLA Advisor at broehl@goresorters.com or 920-876-3381 x 3403.