



A petite young woman came to Kings Park to be the new Assistant Principal in the High School. There were reservations about whether she could handle the often rough and tumble life of a high school. It was an unfounded concern because the one time Social Studies teacher bonded with the students immediately. And that has been Dr. Mary DeRose's strength - her ability to attune to the needs of a student body of diverse ages.

Dr. DeRose's nearly 27 years of association with the Kings Park School District has focused on improving and expanding the educational program. Maybe because of her background in history and history related fields, Mary has championed the arts and letters aspect of modern education. The music program has exploded in size while the art program's work has been significantly displayed throughout the community. Her supportive role in creating the Heritage Museum is highlighted by the many cultural evenings produced by the school system. Under her guidance, K thru 12 have maintained a high level of accomplishment in those areas based on arts and letters.

All indications underline the fact that families move or stay in Kings Park to a high degree because of the school system. The captain of the ship gets credit for the heights achieved and punished for the depths reached.. Dr. Mary DeRose's journey has been nothing but constant success. The arts and letters she has championed and supported have been a gem for the community's educational system.