

Charlotte Continues to Love and Nurture Children Throughout her Retirement

Charlotte Hafer retired from 41 years of teaching in the district in 2010 or so it would seem. Since her “retirement”, Charlotte has continued to tutor children at her teaching alma mater Grandview Elementary.

“Working with the children is a blessing. It is just the kind of medicine that I need,” said Charlotte, who works with the children five days a week for six hours a day. Charlotte never took a sick day during her teaching career and has not had one during her retirement time as a tutor. If you totaled all of that time, it would indicate that Charlotte has taught for over 9,000 days without taking one sick day!



She credits the children for her dedication and her tenacity. Charlotte works with a diverse spectrum of students at Grandview who need either support or enrichment in math with their number facts and word problems and in language arts with reading comprehension.

“I individualize the work for the students. The work that we do is above and beyond what is done in the classroom. It is a real cooperative effort with the teachers. They identify students who they would like for me to work with and I provide them with feedback on each student’s progress,” she explained.

“Charlotte is so dedicated. She is here every day and works very hard. She is truly ‘one of a kind’,” noted Paul Swope, principal at Grandview.

Another form of “medicine” for Charlotte is her love of dance and theatre. She owns and operates Mar-Le-Nie Studios in Chambersburg where she can be found most evenings. She teaches creative dance to students who range in age from four to high school age. She learned to dance as a child, but Charlotte explained that she was always too shy to perform.

“When my daughter Charlene was little, I made sure that she took dance lessons. Charlene encouraged me to eventually start a dance studio with several other people,” explained Charlotte. Eventually, Charlotte came to own the studio and continues to run it today on a non-profit basis. The studio has been an integral part of her life for the last 40 years.

“I’ve always said that God has a sense of humor because when I was young I was too shy to perform on stage. Look at where I am today and how blessed I am to be here,” she said as she looked around at the stage in the Grandview all purpose room which has become her ‘classroom’ where she mentors her students and keeps all of her teaching supplies.

“I never want to stop teaching. It’s what I love to do and why I get up in the morning,” Charlotte said.