

HALL OF FAME

• 2023 HONOREE

DEBORAH WEBB McCOY



A native of Ripley, Tennessee, Deborah Webb McCoy was the first student from Ripley High School to earn a position in the All West Bands. After graduating from high school, she went on to earn her Bachelor of Music Degree from Union University and the Master of Music Education Degree from the University of Memphis.

Mrs. McCoy began her teaching career in 1979 as assistant band director at Dyersburg High School. The following year she moved to the Memphis area where she taught General Music and Band for the Shelby County School System. The last thirty years of her thirty-eight year career were spent at Riverdale K-8, where her students earned numerous superior ratings at local and regional concert festivals as well as countless positions in All West TN Middle Bands.

As a member of WTSBOA, Mrs. McCoy worked tirelessly to help facilitate and promote music education opportunities for our West Tennessee Band Students. For several years she served an All West TN Middle School Band Rehearsal Chair and as an Event Chair for the WTSBOA Middle School Band Concert Festival in Memphis. She has also served as an TMEA All-State Woodwind Judge, a judge for All West Band Auditions, an adjudicator for Memphis area Solo and Ensemble Festivals and as a clinician for several Memphis area honor bands. Additionally, during her tenure with Shelby County Schools, Mrs. McCoy was a co-author for Middle School Band Curriculum.

Mrs. McCoy is a recipient of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra's Outstanding Music Educator Award, Tennessee PTA Life Achievement Award, and Veterans of Foreign Wars 2006 Teacher of the Year. In 2017, TMEA recognized Mrs. McCoy's 40 years of service for her contributions to the advancement of music education.

Debbie and Ken McCoy have been married for forty-two years and reside in Germantown. They have a daughter, Katie, a son, Drew, and a daughter-in-law, Lexi. One of the highlights of Debbie's career was teaching both her children in music and band classes at Riverdale.

Since retiring from the Germantown Municipal School District in 2016, Mrs. McCoy serves as substitute teacher, performs with the Bartlett Community Concert Band and enjoys traveling and spending time with her family. In the finest example of dedication to serving and promoting instrumental music education, WTSBOA is proud to honor Mrs. McCoy as our 2023 West Tennessee School Band & Orchestra Association Hall of Fame Inductee.