

Brieflies

March 23- Third quarter ends today.

March 30- No school due to parent/teacher conferences. Be extra nice to teachers today so they tell your parents good things about you.

April 2 through April 9- Spring break!

April 18- Half day for school improvement.

April 21- Junior Prom at Wharton from 8-11. Boys, make sure you've asked a lucky lady.

April 25- ACT testing for all Juniors.

April 26- PSAE testing for all Juniors.

MHS welcomes Dr. Burrus
Former MHS student walks through doors again

By: Karin Scott
News Assistant Editor

He has been here, but he hasn't taken on a role quite like this before. Dr. Bill Burrus will become Moline High School's new principal starting in the 2007-2008 school year.

He was a Dean of Students at MHS for four years, but he hasn't been the principal of such a large group of kids before. He is currently the principal of John Deere Middle School, which is only one-fourth the size of MHS.

Dr. Burrus is a graduate of MHS. He attended four different colleges and has five different degrees including Master of Science, Education Specialist, and Doctorate.

He achieved his doctorate in 2003 after working on it for seven years at Illinois State University. He's been a teacher at three different schools, a dean of two schools, a coach at one school, and a principal of one soon to be two schools. Let's just say he has a lot of experience!

The schools he has been at include Aledo High School, Washington Junior High, Rock Island High School, Moline High School, and currently John Deere Middle School.

Principal of Moline High School has always been the dream job for Dr. Burrus. He believes MHS is a tremendous



Mr. Koeller presents Dr. Burrus with a set of his very own MHS keys. (Photo by Spitzfaden)

school with outstanding staff and students alike. He has been hoping to have this opportunity for years and feels it "is the right place to be."

He feels that the most important part to a school is student achievement. He has set a goal for himself to raise test scores and continue to have the school grow academically. He also thinks that it is good to "leave a place in better shape than when you obtain it."

Also, since he will be new to a lot of the students and staff, it is a goal of his to learn more about them and what improvements they think need to be made.

Dr. Burrus is both excited and nervous about the change. His new job will be much different in that he will be much busier and involved with many new activities. There is a large amount of activities at the high school, which he knows will lead him in new directions. But he certainly is not overwhelmed.

Dr. Burrus is excited to start because he has a great love for working with young adults. He enjoys watching students grow from freshman to seniors. He is also eager to be around numerous student athletes and performers. Dr. Burrus stated, "I love to get involved with extra-

curricular activities and become a part of the high school outside of the classroom."

The "door always open" policy is one practiced by Dr. Burrus, which he says leads to long days, but he wouldn't have it any other way. He is easily approachable and is very student and teacher centered.

Dr. Burrus will be another great man following in Mr. Koeller's footsteps. He will become part of the MHS family and will surely start his own legacy. Dr. Burrus says, "I am looking forward to the challenge." It is going to be quite a big one, but he's up for it..

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