An Interview with Dr. Robert Daiber

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Education is Key-1985 Educational Reform Act Oral History project

Interview # E85-A-L-2014-050

Dr. Robert Daiber, Regional Superintendent of Madison County who discusses the implementation and legacy of the 1985 Educational Reform Act, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library’s Education is Key-Educational Reform Act of 1985 Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Dec 19, 2014  Location: Regional Office of Education Edwardsville, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _________________________

Edited by: _______________________________

Total Pages: ______   Total Time: 1:54 / 1.9 hrs

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The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Dr. Robert Daiber, *Education is Key, E85-A-L-2014-050*

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Robert (Bob) Daiber was born in Staunton, Illinois in 1956. He attended Marine Grade School and then graduated from Triad High School in Troy, Illinois in 1974. In 1976 he graduated from Belleville Area College and then earned a BS degree from Eastern Illinois University in 1978, majoring in education (technology/industrial arts). In 1978, he earned a Master of Arts degree from Eastern. Robert then returned to his home school, Triad High School. He taught there from 1979-2007, and also served on the Madison County Board. He ran unsuccessfully for the state legislature. In 1990, he earned a Doctorate in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. In 2007, Robert was appointed Regional Superintendent of Schools for Madison County. He has been reelected three times and has served as President of the Illinois Regional Superintendents Association.

This interview covers how the 1985 Educational Reform Act, the study “A Nation at Risk” and other research studies of the 1980’s impacted a new teacher coming into the Triad School District. Dr. Daiber discusses his involvement with the new learning standards, local/ state assessment, the new teacher evaluation model, and the staff development which took place because of the 1985 Reforms. He also explains how his area of teaching benefited from new equipment and courses as part of Build Illinois. In 2007, Dr. Daiber covers the role of the Regional Office of Education in its responsibilities for staff development, teacher/substitute certification, alternative education, truant intervention, school compliance visits, life safety (asbestos) inspections, bus driver permits/refresher training, GED, Migrant Grant Programs, school reorganization, and early childhood education. In addition, Dr. Daiber addresses the relationship of the Regional Offices (ROE) with the State Board of Education, the governor and local school districts. As President of the Regional Superintendents Association, Dr. Daiber reviewed the newest law, reducing the number of ROE’s to 35 while providing a partial source of the office’s funding from the Corporate Personal Property Replacement.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Educational Reform Act of 1985; A Nation At Risk study; impact of the 1985 Educational Reform Act on teaching at the High School level; Illinois State Board of Education; school staff development and the 1985 Educational Reform Act; Illinois state learning objectives; educational assessment in Illinois; teacher evaluation in Illinois; alternative education; truant intervention; regional Offices of Education in Illinois;

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