

Billie Collier

Billie Collier began teaching business education at KSD in 1970. She started in the Old Vocational Building with one Smith-Corona portable electric typewriter, several manual typewriters and a keypunch machine. Over the next 40 years, the program added IBM Selectric typewriters, word processors, and graphic arts composers.



In 1984 when the New Vocational Building opened, the program moved into the computer age first with Apple IIe computers, then Macintosh computers and finally PCs. For several years, when KSD had a limited number of computers, she took her high school students to Johnson County Community College for computer classes. Students received college credit. She has taught keyboarding, office practice, computer applications, career exploration classes in the vocational department, high school, middle school and elementary departments. Several of her students participated in on-the-job training at local businesses. In recent years, K-6 grade students have had the opportunity to take keyboarding and computer literacy classes developing skills which have had direct application and support for classroom and at-home activities.

She also was editor of the Kansas Star school newspaper for 20 years; sponsor of the KSD Jackrabbit yearbook for several years; and sponsor of three Senior Classes. For the last 10 years, she has published the Emery Elementary News for parents, students, and staff.

Billie also taught at Olathe High School and Salina High School (KS). Two years prior to coming to KSD, she was a legal secretary for a Kansas City, MO law firm. While an undergraduate student at Northeastern State University (Tahlequah, OK), she had also worked as a legal secretary for a local firm.

Her retirement becomes effective at the end of the school year.