

BREMEN DISTRICT 228

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Hillcrest High School

Name: Linda Griffin

Position: Chemistry Teacher; Chemistry Physics Teacher

Birthplace: Chicago, Illinois

Family Includes: I'm a widow. Son: Aaron, Daughter: Hadiya

Pet(s): Two male domestic tabby cats: Manny and Shiloh

Hobbies: Reading science fiction and science nonfiction books, science fiction movies, computers, Japanese Anime, building dollhouses, & Sudoku

High School I Graduated From: Harlan High School, Chicago

Level of Degree/College Attended: **Bachelors:** 1) University of Arizona, Tucson –Microbiology/Medical Technology & 2) Governors State University, Illinois - Elementary Education. **Masters:** 1) Roosevelt University, Chicago: Public Administration & 2) National Louis University, Illinois: Curriculum/Instruction

Past Position(s): Chicago Osteopathic Hospital – Chemistry Lab (8 years); Southwood Junior High (8 years, science teacher), Hillcrest High School since 1997

Proudest Professional Accomplishment: Research at Argonne National Lab through the Department of Energy Grant (1990-2001) & published two curriculum handbooks with research team (Maglev Technology: Activities on Electromagnetism and Magnetism & The T.U.R.F.E.R. Adventure: A Teacher's Environmental Handbook)

"If I Couldn't Work In Education, I Would": Research in the field of environmental sustainability and write science fiction novels

Favorite Food/Restaurant: Sushi, Tai food

Favorite Performer(s): The cellist, Yo Yo Ma

Favorite Movie(s): *Tropic Thunder*, *Lord of the Rings* trilogy

Three Words That Best Describe Me: Creative, insightful, analytical

Life Has Taught Me: To cherish each day, and to never take for granted those that are "near and dear" to you.

Anything Else You Would Like Us To Know About You: Teaching is not just my job, teaching is my spiritual ministry and true divine path.

The Best Thing About District 228 is: My extended family of Hillcrest students in addition to the support and inspiration I get from colleagues at Hillcrest, Bremen, Oak Forest, and Tinley Park.

Favorite Quotation: "The means by which we live have outdistanced the ends for which we live. Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men." -Martin Luther King Jr., *Strength to Love*, 1963-