



# LAKWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS HALL OF FAME

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS** The Lakewood Public Schools Hall of Fame is a tribute to men and women who have made exceptional contributions to society, achieved extraordinary success, exhibited good character and action, bringing honor and prestige to Lakewood Public Schools. Hall of Fame inductees are recognized as outstanding role models for our students and have reached above and beyond the ordinary.

**WHEREAS** Mr. William Eckstrom, former Lakewood Superintendent of Schools, principal, educator and coach, is formally inducted into the Lakewood Public Schools Hall of Fame by the nominating committee, for excellence and dedication to lifelong education.

**WHEREAS** Mr. Eckstrom joined Lakewood Public Schools in 1956, teaching biology, general science, and driver training. He coached Lakewood High School athletes in varsity basketball and baseball. During his Lakewood tenure, Mr. Eckstrom, through teaching and coaching, inspired kids to succeed, reach for success, and entertain the possibilities that stretched the limits of their beliefs. Mr. Eckstrom was appointed principal of Lake Odessa High School from 1958 – 1960. In January of 1960 at the age of 29, Bill was named as Superintendent of Lake Odessa Public Schools where he provided leadership that resulted in the creation of Lakewood School District. Mr. Eckstrom served as Superintendent of Schools of Lakewood from June, 1960 until retirement at 1990.

**WHEREAS** After retirement, Mr. Eckstrom served as a consultant at Lansing Community College, supervising graduate students in extern programs in school administration for Grand Valley State University.

**WHEREAS** Mr. Eckstrom served his community by partnering to develop small subdivisions surrounding Jordan Lake to build the community from 1990 – 2002

**WHEREAS** Mr. Eckstrom has been the recipient of numerous honors including the Community Development Award from the Michigan Association of Community School Directors in 1978; Recognition in 1982 for having played in Michigan State's first Big Ten basketball game in 1951; the K-12 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Education of MSU, 1984; Honorable mention in 1985 Sports Illustrated Magazine for his sons who played in the Gus Macker Tournaments; Grand Marshals representing education in Lake Odessa Centennial parade, 1987, and the 1989 Recognition from the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives for his "Outstanding leadership and positive influence on youth." Mr. Eckstrom and his wife Jewel were named Grand Marshals of the Lake Odessa Fair Parade and Honorary Chairpersons for the Lake Odessa Library remodel in 2014.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Jay Lerner, Lakewood High School Principal, do hereby proclaim that Mr. William Eckstrom be inducted in the Lakewood Public Schools Hall of Fame.



Randall Fleenor, Md.E, Superintendent of Schools

Jay Lerner, Principal, Lakewood High School