



BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blue Valley educators honored by the Mid America Education Hall of Fame

The Mid America Education Hall of Fame will soon honor a Blue Valley teacher and a former Blue Valley principal. Blue Valley West AP and honors biology teacher Ken Bingman will be officially inducted into the Mid America Education Hall of Fame in Kansas City, Kan. on Saturday, November 7. Jim Gill, a retired principal in the district, will also be inducted.

In addition to the Mid America Education Hall of Fame honor, Bingman, a 47-year teaching veteran, was inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in summer 2009. He was the first Blue Valley teacher to receive that honor. He was also named a Kansas Master Teacher during the 2008-09 school year. Phil Witt, news anchor of Fox News 4 WDAF-TV, nominated Bingman for the Mid America Education Hall of Fame.

Gill was founding principal at Leawood and Pleasant Ridge middle schools. During his tenure at Leawood, the school was awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education.

“He punched no time clock when it came to the needs of kids, their parents and for that matter, any staff member,” said Harold Spillman, retired Blue Valley educator. Spillman submitted Gill’s nomination.

The Mid-America Education Hall of Fame was established to identify and recognize individuals, organizations and corporate supporters notable for their contributions to education and to provide well-deserved recognition to education and its impact on the quality of life. Inductees are selected from one or more of four criteria: 1) Demonstrates a commitment to education; 2) Works to improve quality of life in the community through their commitment to education; 3) Strives to increase educational opportunities for others; and 4) Supports significant changes that have improved the quality of education.

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