

Carolyn “Luke” Howard, started her teaching career along with coaching in 1962. During her 30-year career at Gahanna Lincoln High School serving as a health and physical education teacher, she was also an intramural director, cheerleading advisor, assistant volleyball coach, and head coach for basketball, softball and tennis. Howard was actively involved with the Girl’s Athletic Association, which filled a void for many girls and became the catalyst for interscholastic girl’s sports.

Howard’s peers, Phyllis Fritz, Kathy Nerny and Pam Scites, remarked, “Carolyn was undoubtedly the cornerstone for girl’s athletics at Gahanna Lincoln High School. She gave countless hours to hundreds of girls during her tenure, and many of those years were without any monetary reward. Her payment was the respect and admiration of her students.” The group continued that Howard was, in part, the stimulus for many of her students to go on to become teachers and coaches due to her influence. Howard was truly the pioneer for girl’s sports at Gahanna Lincoln.

Howard has received many honors throughout her education career including her induction into the Gahanna Lincoln Athletic Hall of Fame and, in 1997, she was in the first class of women inaugurated into the Ohio District 10 Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. At the time of her induction, no coach, male or female, had a better win-loss record.

With student learning as her top priority, Howard founded the “Aim For Success” program that served students coming into the high school from the middle school level, identifying those unlikely to graduate due to poor study habits. Howard dedicated her time and efforts to these students every day to help them build the necessary skills to succeed. She was known for always being prepared as well as for her thoroughness, willingness to help, fairness and cooperation. She loved the interaction with students and respected them as individuals, and in return she received respect and appreciation from them.

A posthumous Cornerstone Award goes to Mildred Powell. Powell began teaching in the Gahanna-Jefferson School District in 1963. She served for 21 years as a science/chemistry teacher at Gahanna Lincoln High School until her retirement in 1984.

Kathleen Lowery, who worked with Powell from 1969-80, stated, “Millie was a gifted educator and a master teacher who simply excelled in her profession. She served informally as a mentor to the teachers in the science department, and our careers benefited as a result of her sharing her gifts as a teacher and a person. She held high standards as well as an expectation of excellence for each of her students, and had the rare quality to bring out the best in everyone.”

As well, Powell was a talented artist who focused her efforts on water colors and the silkscreen process. She took great interest in the visual and performing arts

at the high school, and began designing posters in 1965 for the school musicals. She continued to create posters after her retirement with the district, in addition to designing T-shirts and working behind the scenes constructing sets for the school productions. Her artwork lines the auditorium lobby walls to this day, giving students and staff a vast reflection into the history of Gahanna Lincoln's musical performances.



*Millie Powell was a very talented lady. Gahanna Lincoln had the benefit of her building a strong academic program in chemistry and leaving a legacy of creative art work. She was a true Cornerstone.*