

Philip M. Carpenter, Jr.

From the outset of his college career, Philip M. Carpenter, Jr. made the decision to devote himself to educating our nation's youth. Philip joined the Bay Shore UFSD in 1964 and served as a social studies educator in the Bay Shore Middle School for 36 years.

Nearly 55 years and thousands of students later, Philip still gains satisfaction from helping students succeed and find their own unique talents and voices. For Philip, the best way to ensure strong opportunity for every child in America is equal access to learn and grow in school. "The playing fields aren't always even and disparity makes a huge difference in the long run," he says. "I have always wanted to give students access to the tools that will help them to succeed in life."

Philip was instrumental in the creation of the Bay Shore Middle School's 9/11 Memorial Garden. He established seven Carpenter Family scholarships that are annually awarded to Bay Shore UFSD High School students in their continued pursuit of education. He extended this commitment in 2007 by endowing five scholarships at the State University of New York College at Oneonta for Bay Shore UFSD graduates.

Philip is a beloved role model to youth, former students, teaching professionals, and community members. He is profoundly grateful to his Bay Shore UFSD mentors – Joe Bidzek, Ed Gallagher, Gomez Paige, and Allan and King Van Nostrand – who served during World War II and the Korean War and inspired his teaching. "We stand on the shoulders of those we respect, admire, and who achieve the results that we aspire to," said Philip. "Their fundamental commitment to public education helped shape who I am."

An active member of the Bay Shore Lions Club, Philip is also a supporter of the Bay Shore Beautification Society, Bay Shore Classroom Teachers Association, and Bay Shore Fire Department, as well as a contributor to other vital community service initiatives.

His awards include the 2018 SCOPE Education Services Community Service Award for outstanding service to the Bay Shore UFSD and 2018 Bay Shore Brightwaters Rescue Ambulance, Inc. Community Service Award in recognition of his leadership and outstanding commitment to build a stronger community for our children and families.

Philip's greatest joy and pride are his four children who graduated from Bay Shore USFD. He has five grandchildren.