



Terry Collins

Terry Collins was one of the ten 1956 graduates from Corey High School (now part of Clay City). His future unfolded with the recommendation of the Township Trustee, who shared that Terry would be an excellent music teacher because of his devotion to his musical ability, as he performed with his band during halftime of the basketball games in which he was a player on the team. Terry followed that recommendation and obtained his bachelor's degree at Indiana State Teachers College and completed his master's degree at Indiana State University.

Immediately after college, Mr. Collins's first teaching assignment was at Wheatfield High School. In 3 years, he was asked to come to Knox High School as the Band Director, and he remained there for 8 years. Dr. Hathaway, from Lewis Cass High School, learned of Terry's accomplishments and contacted Mr. Collins to request that he come to Walton to create a Band Program. In the next 22 years, Mr. Collins was able to give over 1,000 students the music experience of a lifetime.

While the school music associations in Indiana evolved and consolidated, Lewis Cass High School was part of the Marching Band Finalists every step of the way, including a Class C Championship in 1988. The band students were blessed with many experiences in musical performances at locations such as New Orleans Mardi Gras Parades, The Grand Ole Opry stage in Nashville, TN, Chicago Bears Football game, Disney World in Orlando, FL, Indy 500 Parade, and even an international band competition in Canada.

Terry Collins led by example, serving in different capacities in the statewide music organizations NISBOVA and ISMA which finally consolidated into today's ISSMA. He served as President, on the board of directors, and, as an adjudicator for the organizations. He also taught a Marching Band Technics Course at Marion College (Indiana Wesleyan University).