

Generational Legacy ... Loving Good-bye ...

Steve, Pam Hutsell depart from Groom School after 30-plus years of ongoing service

Groom provided
"... the unique
experience of
being with my
entire family
every single day."

-Faculty Member
Steven Hutsell,
after teaching
32 years here.

For the past three decades, the Hutsell duo could be found educating the minds of Groom students on either end of the school. With that legacy in mind, the 2015 issue of The Tiger yearbook is dedicated to these two people in their last year here.

In 1982, Mrs. Pam Hutsell began her 33-year career at Groom as a kindergarten aid in the morning and an afternoon office helper.

After the 1983 school year, the former kindergarten teacher retired, and Mrs. Hutsell took over from there. Mrs. Hutsell said she enjoyed her previous experience as a high school teacher, but teaching young children was her true vocation.

"I just think kindergarten kids are so eager when they come through the door," Mrs. Hutsell said.

"Watching them develop into readers and writers and little mathematicians is a really cool thing."

Nearly a year later, Mrs. Hutsell's husband, Mr. Steve Hutsell, joined her at the school. The last six weeks of the 1982-83 school year, Mr. Hutsell began as a substitute teacher for Mrs. Beverly Stevens. Then, he worked as a school summer employee and started teaching secondary students full-time in August of 1983.

For the past 32 years, Mr. Hutsell has seen the evolution of teaching and what is required to be taught.

"I think the biggest difference in the opposition to the 1980s is the advent of high-stakes testing - the change in the environment," he said.

The best opportunity Groom

School offered the Hutsells, though, was a place to be a family. Every morning their daughters, Mary and Sarah, would join them in heading to work and school together, with mom teaching on one end of the building and Dad teaching on the other.

One quick moment from one ordinary day led to a family treasure. Someone asked for him to pose with his daughters in the center hallway near the front doors of the school. That moment - and its resulting photograph - left an intense impression on him as to why Groom School mattered so much.

"That picture just exemplifies the unique experience of being with my entire family every single day," Mr. Hutsell said. "I believe that's why Groom is such a unique place to teach."
- Caroline Britten

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Mrs. Pam Hutsell, long-time kindergarten teacher, and Mr. Steve Hutsell, long-time secondary math, chemistry and technology teacher, take a moment from their packing to reflect together on the memories and the years they have experienced in the last three decades they have given to Groom School. The Hutsells resigned the last week of school in 2015. Mrs. Hutsell entered full-time retirement, and he took a new position with Tascosa High School in Amarillo for the 2015-16 school year. According to Mrs. Hutsell, watching Groom students “develop into readers and writers and ... mathematicians is a really cool thing.”



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