



**Wildwood
Elementary**

Dr. Beth Azar, Ph.D.

Principal 2011-2023



VIP (Very Important Principal) Retiree: Dr. Beth Azar, Ph.D.

- **Over 25 years in Education**
 - Began her career as a teacher in her home state of KY
 - Has served in **various leadership positions** throughout her career
 - Received various **awards** throughout her career, including **Teacher of the Year, Master Teacher of Technology, and the Beacon of Light Award**
 - Served as a **building principal** for over 17 years
 - Earned a **Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a Minor in Special Education** from the University of Louisville, a **Masters of Art in Educational Leadership and Policy** from Seton Hall University, and **Doctorate in Educational Leadership** from the College of St. Elizabeth
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- Arrived at **Wildwood Elementary School in 2011**
 - Inspired and rewarded students for **reading initiatives** by reading from the roof, arriving on a big white horse, recording a song “All about the books!” and riding in a hot air balloon over Wildwood School
 - Embraced fun themes with stellar **Halloween** costumes each year and encouraged all staff to participate
 - **Wildwood Time to Soar Before and After School Program**, which brought in an amazing **\$350,000** for the district this year!
 - Redesigned **Computer Lab** and **Library**
 - Helped design **outdoor classroom, bathrooms, new cafeteria, and new playground**
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- Helped bring in new programs and competitions to Wildwood, such as **TREP\$, History Bee, and Science Bee**
 - Started and ran the **Science Fair**
 - Started and maintained **Tower Gardens** (which are flourishing)
 - Worked with teachers to review **new resources** and supported staff in mastery of new resources
 - Received **MLEF grants** to meet **technology** and **SEL (Social-Emotional Learning)** needs of students
 - Continued to **outperform on State NJSLA scores** and increased both reading and math scores during her tenure
 - Dedicated to her daily goal of making Wildwood a wonderful place to **learn and grow**.
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Beyond the bullet points...

“People will forget what you said or what you did, but they will never forget how you made them feel.”

A legacy is beyond what you have accomplished during your time in a place or a position you’ve held, but rather the impact you had on the hearts in your care.

Dr. Azar’s legacy is a legacy of love. She has achieved many great things during her time in Mountain Lakes, but the significant impact she has made on the hearts of her staff and students is just as significant and remarkable.



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“Thank you for believing in me. Your kindness is an inspiration for all of us.”

“Thank you for always being so kind and understanding. You always helped and listened to me.”

“Thank you for being so kind and caring. Your dedication, patience, and kindness will never be forgotten.”

“I am so appreciative for everything you have done for me over the years.”

“You have been such an amazing leader. I have felt your support since day one. Thank you for all you have done for me and your dedication to our school.”

“Thank you for making Wildwood an amazing place to grow for both students and staff.”

“You have always encouraged me to be at my best and to stay positive.”



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“You’ve provided me with comfort, guidance, positivity, and kindness. It was clear from when you became our principal that you poured your heart into your job!”

“Thank you for all your encouragement and support over the years. Your compassion for everyone has meant so much to me.”

“You created a warm, caring environment for students and staff.”

“Thank you for all you have done for me, especially finding a new joy in teaching.”

“Thank you for always making people feel loved and appreciated with your kind heart and generous spirit.”

Thank you for making your staff and students feel appreciated, valued, and understood through your kindness, compassion, and generous heart.

We promise to continue your legacy of love at Wildwood.
