

Department of Education Honors Four 'Pioneers in Education'

Aug. 16, 1993
The Globe

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education honored individuals last week as "Pioneers in Education" for 2001.

The four Pioneers were formally recognized during the Department's annual summer conference for public school officials being held at Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach. The conference luncheon began at 11:30 a.m. and featured a video presentation about the Pioneers and their contributions to public education in Missouri. This year's Pioneers in Education are:

*The Honorable John F. Bass, St. Louis, a member of Missouri's Coordinating Board for Higher Education. He served as state senator from the City of St. Louis from 1981-1991. For 12 years, he was employed with the ST. Louis Public School where he was a teacher, counselor and principal.

*The Late Governor Mel Carnahan who throughout his two terms as governor, strived to improve public education in Missouri and was instrumental in passage of the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993. His

daughter, Robin, accepted the award

*Katherine Idleburg, Kansas City, Kan., who spent 35 years with the Kansas City Public Schools teaching reading and creative writing at the elementary level. Mrs. Idleburg is a member of the First Baptist Church, where she serves as church clerk and director of the E.A. Freeman After School Program. She also teaches adult Sunday School and serve on the Board of Christian Education. Her pastor is Dr. Ellis Robinson.

*Dan A. Kahler, Gladstone, a high school principal for 28 years, including 21 years at Oak Park High School in the North Kansas City School District. He also was an adjunct professor for more than 30 years at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

State education officials have selected the Pioneers in Education since 1974. The award honors classroom teachers, school administrators, legislators and citizens for their distinguished service and leadership to



Katherine Idleburg

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