

Longtime educator dies

By [Richard Greene](#) | Published on January 04, 2020

Longtime Boyd educator Barbara Stice died Wednesday after a long bout with cancer. She was 53.

Stice spent 21 years at Boyd ISD, including 16 years in administration. She resigned in June 2018 to accept the assistant director role at Wise County Shared Services, which provides educational, instructional and related services to students with disabilities.

In her time in Boyd, she served the district in a variety of roles, working on every campus as a teacher or administrator. She also worked at central administration as the director of student services and later assistant superintendent.



LASTING LEGACY – Barbara Stice spent 21 years at Boyd ISD, including 16 years as an administrator. She died Wednesday after a bout with cancer. Messenger archive photo

“She was probably the hardest worker I’ve known in the school business. There’s nothing she wouldn’t dive into. She would learn anything and look at it from every perspective,” said former Boyd ISD Superintendent Ted West, who worked alongside Stice for more than a decade. The two were interim superintendents of the district before West was hired as the full-time superintendent in 2012.

“We worked really well together. There was nothing that I didn’t bounce off her. Her input, voice and historical perspective was invaluable,” he said.

Boyd Middle School Principal Daniel Bourgeois shared a campus with Stice his first year as a principal. Bourgeois was the intermediate principal, while Stice led the middle school before the campuses were combined under one administration in 2018.

Bourgeois said he learned how to be a principal from the tireless Stice.

“She was a leader in every sense of the word,” he said. “She was the first one to approach me about being an administrator in 2013. I learned a lot under her tutelage. I always went to her for advice, even two months ago though she was at Bridgeport. She was the true definition of a leader.”

Stice was diagnosed with two forms of breast cancer in July 2015. After surgery and treatment, she was in remission until last year.

Only a few days after her surgery in 2015, she returned to school, putting her work ethic on display.

“I told [West] many times, ‘if I’m sitting at home, I’ll just be there feeling sorry for myself,’” she said. “I don’t have time for that. I want to be here.”