

GILMANTON HIGH SCHOOL

Graduate: Julie Steiner Kacures Class of 1987 After High School: Winona State University, Bachelor of Science Degree - Business Education

Career Highlights: School District of Gilmanton (1995 - present); Necedah Area School District (1992-1995). One of the best parts of my job is definitely experiencing that "light bulb" moment when a student grasps a concept. Watching their successes both in and after high school is also extremely satisfying.

Other Areas of Accomplishment: Our FBLA chapter at Gilmanton continues to be successful. We have had state officers as well as national qualifiers. We are proud of the annual "Hoops for Hope" event we host where all money raised goes to the American Cancer Society. The yearbook is still going strong. This fall we will begin publishing Volume 82. I realized a few years ago that, as a staff member, editor, or adviser, I have played a role in 28 GHS yearbooks!

Current Information: I am currently living in Mondovi and have just started my 24th year of teaching business at Gilmanton High School. I have been married to Jeff Kacures since 1997. My daughter, Morgan, will graduate from high school in the spring. I also have two stepsons who live in the St. Cloud area.

Strengths of Gilmanton High School: I remember students in other schools saying that Gilmanton must not have offered me many opportunities. On the contrary, I think I was able to participate in more activities than I would have in a larger district. A school with higher enrollment might have limited my involvement. But for me in Gilmanton, the sky was the limit. The community and the school supported everything I wanted to do -- from academics to FBLA to yearbook. I feel grateful for all the opportunities offered to me in Gilmanton.

Fond Memories: The feeling of "family" and the ability and willingness of teachers to go above and beyond what they needed to do made high school an amazing time for me.

Advice to Current Students:

I didn't believe it, either, when I was young. But time goes so incredibly fast. Don't wish away your life. Enjoy each and every moment.

Julie was nominated for the GHS Alumni Spotlight by Mary Jane Lisowski