

Dr. William Funcke
2004 Friend of Education

Dr. Funcke has been faithful to the Partners in Learning, "PaLs," district tutor/mentor program for 10 years, often working with the same student 3 or 4 years in a row. He goes beyond just tutoring his "PaL." He teaches them magic tricks, about model airplanes and flight, encourages them to do their best, and even keeps in touch with them over the summer. One of Dr. Funcke's "PaLs" had a knack for learning magic tricks. Together, Dr. Funcke and the student presented magic shows at Washington and Wilson Schools. Dr. Funcke was very proud of his student who was quite shy, but performed very well. He had a positive impact on this student, as well as many others.

Dr. Funcke has a special knack for working with all types of students. He has the ability to determine a student's needs in terms of academic skills and emotional support. His consistency and reliability are great assets. If Dr. Funcke misses "PaLs" for a trip, he sends postcards to his "PaL" at school.

Besides working with the "PaLs" program, Dr. Funcke has presented magic shows at Beaver Dam schools and has flown model airplanes for students to learn from and enjoy. Many children have benefited from his gentle, caring, and calm approach.