

Ellaine Hoff

City and state: Lakewood, WA

High school attended: Clover Park High School

Graduation year: 1984

Colleges attended/degrees earned:

Pierce College, AA



Current career/job:

Assistant Supervisor, Tacoma Power

Describe the path you took from high school graduation to where you are today:

I worked in retail right after graduating while attending college, and really enjoyed business classes. When my daughter was born I hated the retail hours and that led to the job with the city.

How did your experiences in Clover Park School District help prepare you for this path?

I had great teachers who treated me with respect and encouraged me to use common sense in my decisions and look at the pros and cons to help.

Who was the most influential teacher or administrator to you as a student in the district? Why?

Mrs. Rumbaugh really stands out in my mind. She was always smiling, and when you needed help or asked "why" she would grade in a particular way she was always willing to explain and help you improve. She is much of the reason I can communicate on paper!

Do you have any favorite memories from when you attended school in Clover Park School District?

I loved our class spirit! I also miss the wooden football field bleachers and how we would pack into them for games.

What opportunities exist in your career sector for new graduates? Is post-secondary education required for this field

There are many trades in the electrical industries that don't require a college degree, but do require great math skills. I think we miss sharing these fields with high school students, I feel we need to do a better job at not just preparing kids for college, but to show them opportunities in trades which do require additional education and actually pay extremely well. Even in today's job market line, wire and meter electricians are needed since so many are near retirement age.