



Harold R. Goff, 98, a former Albuquerque Public Schools teacher and principal who had been president and executive director of the New Mexico Association of Educational Retirees and, for 20 years, chairman of the state Educational Retirement Board.

Retired from APS since the 1970s, Goff has continued to champion issues impacting educators, seniors and the local community. Other organizations he has served include the Albuquerque Environmental Planning Commission, Heights Baptist Church, the AARP and the Rotary Club.

After graduating from Albuquerque High in 1927, Goff earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of New Mexico. He earned an additional master's degree at the University of California at Berkeley.

During his long career with APS, he was a classroom teacher, a guidance teacher and a principal at Bandelier Elementary and the combined Grants Junior High-Los Altos Elementary. Goff encouraged building strong relationships with students and parents alike. Although he left Bandelier Elementary in 1961, the school honored his legacy years later by naming its new gymnasium in his honor.

At 91, Goff married Ruth Deese after the passing of his first wife; together they have served in church activities that connect home-bound seniors to each other and to their church. Goff has recently had to taper his volunteer work due to health problems. His son, Russell Goff, has followed in his father's footsteps as an educator and now serves in the New Mexico Retired Teachers Association.