



## Don Gruenbacher

*Andale High School 1985*

*Professor and Department Head of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Kansas State University*

*What degrees have you received since your graduation from Renwick?* I received my B.S. (1989), M.S. (1991), and Ph.D. (1994), all in electrical engineering, from K-State. I also took graduate courses from Johns Hopkins University.

*What do you enjoy the most about your chosen profession?* I really enjoy working with students in a university setting. It is a refreshing and invigorating environment.

*Was there a teacher who made a positive impact you or helped direct your path when you were a Renwick student? How did they inspire you?* Actually there were two different teachers. Mrs. Adams was my math teacher in 6-8th grade, and she continually pushed me to keep advancing my skills. At Andale High, Mr. Danler was my teacher for both chemistry and physics, and he always inspired us to be creative, explore our ambitions and discover what got us excited. Mr. Danler was certainly a huge factor for my decision to study engineering at K-State.

*Any advice to current Renwick students preparing for college?* I believe all students should know their college and career goals can be achieved, but it often requires long-term planning and hard work. It is important to find something you really enjoy and that also has good career opportunities. Follow your passion and you will find great success.

*What difference did your time as a student at Renwick make for you?* Not only do I feel like I received a great academic experience, but the athletic, band, performing arts, student council and many other activities that the schools encourage ALL students to participate in is truly special. These experiences taught me many life skills. Experiences that I would likely would not have had at a larger school. Thank you, Renwick schools.

Do you know someone who is *Renwick Made*? Help us share their story by emailing [anne.maxwell@usd267.com](mailto:anne.maxwell@usd267.com).