



John Dandurand

Garden Plain High School

John Dandurand works for Textron Aviation in Wichita, where he has had several roles in Human Resources and Operations. I currently hold the position of Human Resources Business Leader, where I have HR responsibility for Customer Service employees located in the US and rest of world. I also lead the Labor Relations function (this group is responsible for administering our relationship with the Union and employees covered under the bargaining unit) for Textron Aviation. Prior to current role was Director of Assembly Operations having responsibility for assembly of Cessna business jets produced in Wichita. Also earlier in career transferred to Bell Helicopter (Textron company) in Amarillo Texas, where I was Human Resource Director for their military assembly center.

What degree(s) have you received since your graduation from Renwick and what schools did you attend?

Received dual bachelor's degree from Kansas State University – BS in Industrial/Organizational Psychology and second degree in Industrial Labor Relations. I received my Masters in Management from Friends University.

What do you enjoy the most about your chosen profession?

On a personal level – it's all about the people. Every job I have had comes back to working with others. I have met a lot of great people along the way and have learned something from each one.

On a professional level – It's been about the variety. I have had the opportunity to move within a profession and even had the opportunity to change professions, moving between Human Resources and Operations. Being able to change roles keeps me challenged and requires continued learning.

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?

It took each of them, let's just say at times I was easily distracted. I would especially thank Bill Brown, Nancy Bollinger, Charlotte Ediger, Marita Hill, Mary Meyer, Duane Puetz, and Loren Schomacker. In their own way, each provided guidance, support, direction and correction when it was needed. But in the end, there can only be one, and for me that's easy. It was my mother, Martha Dandurand. She deserves a medal for finding a way to be both a mother and teacher. She loved learning and that was contagious. Without that, I am certain my education and career would have turned out quite differently. Thanks, Mom.

Advice to current Renwick students preparing for college?

The education available to Renwick students provides a great foundation for whatever they choose to do after graduation. The key is applying yourself, when it comes to education I am convinced you will get out of it only as much as you put into it. Everything you need to be successful is there to be had, if you're willing to put in the effort.

What kind of a difference did your time as a student at Renwick make for you?

My time at Renwick gave me foundational elements that I still rely on today. Whether learned through the academic aspect, working as a team that comes through sports, or sense of community that comes from small towns – each has helped to shape who I am today. It was a great experience that has remained with me to this day.

Do you know someone who is *Renwick Made*? Help us share their story by emailing anne.maxwell@usd267.com.