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## Walking for Mr. Lowery

### Event held in memory of former Brown teacher.

By **MAY LEE JOHNSON** *Tribune Staff Writer*

Evelyne Toe remembers Mahlon Lowery as someone who cared about all his students.

“Mr. Lowery didn’t care if you were black, white or any other race,” said Evelyne, a student at Brown Intermediate Center. “He loved everybody and if you gave him respect he would give it back to you. Almost every student here was impressed with his kindness, compassion and dedication to the students here at Brown. That’s why I’m walking in his memory.”

Lowery, an athletic director and physical education teacher at Brown, died in November 2009 after a brief illness.

On Thursday, hundreds of students decked out in bright yellow and green T-shirts with the Brown school logo walked in his memory.

Along with them was his wife, Nancy.

“I’m here because I wanted to walk with this year’s eighth graders who would have been Mahlon’s class,” she said. “The kids are right. If you respected him he would respect you. I know if he were alive he would be out here because he was all about physical fitness.”

Students walked 2.8 miles. After the walk, they returned to school where they continued the physical education activities. Later there was a picnic for everyone at Brown.

#### Brown honored as healthy school

Brown Intermediate Center in South Bend is among a record 110 Indiana schools receiving the 2009-2010 Indiana Action for Healthy Kids Healthy Hoosier School Award.

Through the Healthy Hoosier School Award, schools receive a gold, silver or bronze level for creating a healthy school environment. The applications are reviewed by a team of health professionals, school officials, and state and community leaders.

Brown is receiving silver level recognition.

The award is sponsored by the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana Action for Healthy Kids Team, the Dairy and Nutrition Council, Inc., Whole Foods Market, and Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital at St. Vincent.

“By providing healthy, active environments, schools are preparing students to be fit, and ready to learn,” said Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Bennett, in a news release. “With an increase in awardees in all award categories, it is clear that more Indiana schools are successfully implementing wellness initiatives.”

All participating schools receive a

Principal Joseph Somers said he was proud of the fifth through eighth graders involved in the school-wide project.

“The miles that we have accumulated will be donated to Michiana on the Move,” he said.

Michiana on the Move wants people to make small changes in their daily routine to help them improve and maintain good health.

It sounds like something Mahlon Lowery would have liked.

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certificate of recognition and a Healthy Hoosier School Report Card.

First Lady Cheri Daniels will recognize all 2009-2010 Healthy Hoosier Schools at a Recognizing Success: Health & Academic Achievement in Hoosier Schools celebration on June 1.

Other 2009-2010 Healthy Hoosier School Award Winners include:

**Silver Level**

Grissom Middle School, Schmucker Middle School and Horizon Elementary School, all of the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corp.

**Bronze Level**

Discovery Middle School, Elm Road Elementary School, Northpoint Elementary School, Madison Elementary School, all of P-H-M.

**Honorable Mention**

Middlebury Elementary School of the Middlebury Community Schools.