

Dr. Patsy Shank was born in Keyser, WV. Dr. Patsy Shank graduated from the Mineral County School and attends the Potomac State College.

She taught at the Medical School at West Virginia University before she came to the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in 1981 as a School for the Deaf science teacher. Dr. Patsy Shank worked as a grant and federal programs, staff development, and technology. She became principal of the Elementary School for the Deaf in 1997.

She received her Bachelor Degree in biology from Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, VA; Master in Deaf Education from McDaniel College, Westminster, MD; and doctorate in school administration and supervision from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

Dr. Shanks became a superintendent. She was selected by the West Virginia State Board of Education as the nineteenth Superintendent for the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind on July 2007.

The State Board of Education members demoted her to Chief Finance Operation until she retired in 2011.