

Mr. Lee O'Neill

Class of 1962

After graduating from Unity High School in 1962, Mr. O'Neill pursued a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Western Illinois University. He was accepted into the MBA program at the University of Illinois and graduated in 1980.

Mr. O'Neill has had 40 years of experience in the banking industry. He is currently the President and CEO of Busey Bank headquartered in Urbana, Illinois. He has been associated with Busey Bank for 25 years with the majority of this time focused on providing leadership for the \$1.5 billion loan portfolio. Busey Bank has total assets of over \$4.0 billion. This size makes Busey one of the largest banks in the State of Illinois, the largest Illinois bank South of Interstate 80 and one of the one hundred largest banks in the United States.

Mr. O'Neill has been actively involved in the community while serving as a board member on multiple community boards including Chairman of the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce; Board Member of the Champaign County Economic Development Corporation; Founding Chair of the Champaign County Development Board, Director of Busey Bank and Former Board Member of Citizens Bank of Tolono.

Mr. O'Neill proudly served as President for two of his eight years on the Unit Seven School Board. While serving as a Board Member and the Founding Chairman of CCNET, he included Unit 7 with Champaign and Urbana School Districts in the earliest pilot program in the world for high speed internet connectivity in school districts. This source served for many years as the internet solution for Unit 7.

Mr. O'Neill has taught at Parkland College for over 20 years and was selected as the 1992 State of Illinois Financial Services Advocate of the Year by the Small Business Administration. He and his wife, Jane, and his children, Brent and Sonja, have all graduated from Unit 7. Mr. O'Neill is very proud to have been raised, educated and become a professional able to serve and give back to his community.