

Verlene "Beanie" Stotts received her B.M.E. from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota and M.M. in Clarinet Performance from New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico. She has been teaching band at Discovery Middle School in Fargo, North Dakota since 1994 and prior to that, taught 5 years at Klein Intermediate School in Houston, Texas. Along with her teaching duties at Discovery, she has conducted the Symphonic Band at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN.

Currently, Beanie is the co-manager of the NDNBA JH All-State Band and Treasurer of the North Dakota National Band Association. She received the North Dakota National Band Association Allegro Band Award in 1995, the NDNBA Citation of Excellence Award in 2007, and she was awarded the 2018 North Dakota Music Educators Association Educator of the year. Professional Affiliations include National Band Association, North Dakota National Band Association, National Association for Music Education, North Dakota Music Educators' Association, Minnesota Band Directors Association, and the North Dakota Chapter of Phi Beta Mu National Bandmasters Fraternity.

In addition to her duties at Discovery, she enjoys teaching in her private clarinet studio, cooking, shopping for "deals", as well as spending time with family and friends. She resides in Moorhead, Minnesota with her husband Bob. Together they have 5 children (Matt, Ryan, Allison, Bjorn, and Sam) and 4 grandchildren (Ava, Carsyn, Xander, and Lilah) and 3 grand puppies (Parker, Bella, and Jasper).