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## Joe Mello

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For more than 35 years, Joe Mello was the choral director at Kittatinny Regional High School in Fredon, New Jersey. Mello was a member of the original faculty that was in place when Kittatinny opened in 1974. Prior to that position, Joe taught choral music at Northern Highlands Regional High School in Allendale.

Choirs under Joe's tutelage have performed widely on the East Coast from Florida to Canada. They have even traveled to California and have been featured on NBC's "Today Show".

Joe has conducted the New Jersey All-State Chorus, the All-North Jersey Regional High School Chorus, the New Orleans, Louisiana, District Festival Chorus, and the All-Cape Cod and Islands Festival Chorus in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

In May 2007, Joe was one of fifty music educators in the United States to receive the inaugural Distinguished Music Educator Award from Yale University. Joe received the New Jersey Master Music Teacher Award from the New Jersey Music Educators Association in February, 2010. He served nearly 30 years on the New Jersey Music Educators Association Board of Directors and was elected president for a two-year term in 1987 and again in 1999.

Joe is a life member of MENC: The National Association for Music Education and the American Choral Directors Association. He is currently serving on the Eastern Division Conference Planning Committee of the American Choral Directors Association.

Joe has been the Director of Music at Christ Episcopal Church in Newton since January, 1979.

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