



TOGETHER
We Move Forward



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Matt Mattson, President • Champlin Park



It is truly remarkable how time flies by when you pause and begin to look back. It is hard to believe it has been more than 2 years since our entire MNIAAA body has gotten together in St. Cloud for our annual spring conference. Recently, about 30 Minnesota ADs gathered in person in Denver at the National Conference. It was such a great learning experience and a chance to gain a renewed energy to our positions. I am so looking forward to spending time with each of you March 28th-30th in St. Cloud.

As we pause to reflect on what the last 2 years has been like, living in a pandemic, learning in a pandemic, and still taking care of your local school's activities day in and day out... kudos to you and your amazing passion for your communities. Without each and every one of you, your school and its sense of pride would not be where it is today!

Not many will take the time to thank you or ask how you are doing, but please know we are here for one another! We aren't officially done yet with Covid, but we continue to learn, plan and lead to make sure our students are given a fair shake to compete and learn lifelong skills that activities continue to teach. Together we continue to make a difference!

I look forward to seeing each of you in St. Cloud as we continue to grow the MNIAAA. Our executive board will grow to six with the additions of BIPOC and female members. Again, we thank you for approving this constitutional change last year. The future of the MNIAAA is bright as we continue to lead and be an example for our amazing students, families and communities. I am looking forward to seeing what 1st Vice President Jeff Boran has put together for all of us in March! Thank you again, for all that you do!





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Mike Beck, Executive Secretary

We are going to have an in-person conference March 28-30, 2022. Have not been able to write about an in-person conference since March 13, 2020. It will be in St. Cloud again. Sites are Kelly Inn and Rivers Edge Convention Center. This newsletter is full of details. You have also received emails and other information on this.

As I type this, I realize that close to fifty percent of the ADs in the state have never had the chance to attend a face-to-face MnIAAA Conference. Fifty percent of the MnIAAA has never had to plan for this either. This is the opportunity for you to enrich, learn, greet those you have never seen face-to-face and meet new people, all that do the same job that you do in your school and district. This allows you to bring back new ideas, share your ideas and implement things at your school. This may help you be a better AD. Your school will benefit from this.

Since we have three years of conference rookies this may help you navigate the conference. First get your room. Call the Kelly Inn at 320-253-0606. Some may share rooms to reduce costs, but get your rooms. We do sell out the hotel. Second, register for the conference at www.mniaaa.org.

Decide if you are going to take one or two of the LTC courses we offer Sunday evening or Monday morning. Your registration packet pickup starts at noon, Monday, March 28. This is in Haws Hall. Haws is the site of the trade show, Monday supper, Tuesday lunch, and four drawing for door prizes. I will give the "visit the vendors" speech at Monday's first general session. Vendors enable us to be able to have one of the top conferences in the nation. Your registration fee does not cover the total cost of the conference and we need the support of the vendors.

Look at your agenda. Decide what sessions you would like to see. Mini-sessions are always duplicated. This gives you more freedom of choice. We end Monday and Tuesday nights with an "Idea Exchange" pool side at the Kelly Inn. Ask someone who has been to a conference about this. Tuesday morning some attend the FCA breakfast. You'll need to sign up for that on Monday at their booth. Tuesday evening is our awards banquet in the Kelly Inn Ballroom. It starts at 5:30 p.m. Friday morning is breakfast poolside in the Kelly Inn. This is followed by our last two general sessions. Talk to the people in your conference, they can

enlighten you to a greater degree than is in this paragraph.

National Conference in Denver was rich in Minnesota achievements. First general session was run by now former Wayzata Activities Administrator, Jaime Sherwood. Jaime retired at the end of December. At this session Cloquet High School 2021 graduate Benjamín Bauer received the NIAAA Male National Student Scholarship Award. First ever for a Minnesota student. Thank you to Ben and also to Brad O'Donnell of St. Clair, NIAAA Liaison, for his help in making this happen. The final day of the conference, Tony Fisher, Minneapolis District AD, won the at-large election to the NIAAA

Board of Directors. Congratulations to Tony, thank you for running and again this is a first for a person with Minnesota connections to win an at-large board seat. The conference ended with the NIAAA Awards Banquet. Here, Craig Perry was inducted into the NIAAA Hall of Fame on his first ballot. First time ever for a person with Minnesota connections. A first ballot Hall of Famer is really rare. I am out of new ways to say congratulations and thank you. Visit with Craig and Jaime at our conference. Take LTC 506 and see Craig in action.

Register for the conference. See you in person March 28.



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FIRST VP MESSAGE

By Jeff Boran • Watertown-Elysian, Morristown



Welcome to February! Just another month and a half before the MNIAAA State Conference in St. Cloud. It is amazing to think that the MN Activities Administrators (Active and Retired) and Administrative Assistants will be getting together for the first time in the decade of 2020's! This year's theme is "Reflect, Refresh & Renew in 2022" Currently, final touches are being made for the Conference Agenda and as an organization we prepare to welcome 3 new members to the executive committee. Because we have not met in person the last 3 years, we will have many new faces and get a chance to thank so many for their years of service and dedication to their communities and our profession. As it relates to Covid-19 and the pandemic, the past 2 years have certainly presented its challenges to activities administrators and the state

associations we partner with. My hope for this year's conference is that we truly "reflect" on our challenges, what we have learned, how we have improved and the possibilities that lie ahead. I also hope that this conference allows you an opportunity to "refresh" and be confident as we jump into our spring activity season. Finally, we once again "renew" acquaintances, pick up 1 or 2 things from the conference, and return to our communities, coaches and students with a renewed sense of optimism as we move forward. Hope to see you in March!

Just a reminder to register for the conference as soon as possible and let me know if you would be willing to help in any way at the conference!

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PAST PRESIDENT MESSAGE

By Brent Schimek • Deer River



The Journey Ends.

It has been a great journey serving on the MNIAAA Board the past 4 years. It has been an experience that will always bring back many stories and fond memories. I feel very fortunate to have worked alongside: Charlie Campbell, Bob Grey, Mark Kuisle, Matt Mattson, Jeff Boran, and Guillaume Paek during this time. Also, my home region 7A, Mike Beck, Ken Hubert, and Dan Johnson for their years of service to the MNIAAA.

I am grateful the Executive Committee experience has allowed me the opportunity to meet so many of you also. I'd like to thank the MNIAAA membership for their efforts in supporting the changes proposed during this time and doing so under these trying pandemic conditions. I feel your work

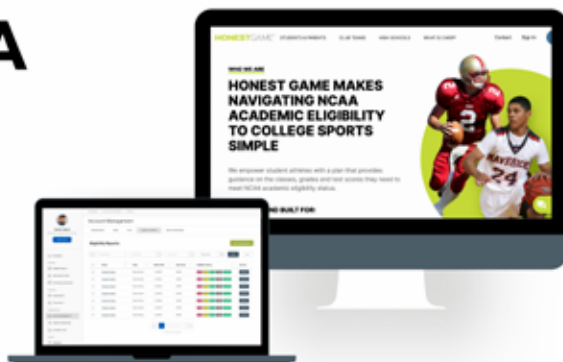
as members during this time will continue the view nationally that the MNIAAA is a leader in Section 5 and the NIAAA.

I encourage you all to take advantage of the opportunity to get involved in the MNIAAA on a committee, at our state conference, or the Executive Board if it is presented to you. It is a great experience!

See you at the Conference!

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NIAAA MESSAGE

By Brad O'Donnell, St. Clair • NIAAA Liaison



As we get ready for our State Conference in late March this will be a great opportunity to start taking a few LTC Courses Sunday evening and Monday morning before the conference even starts. You will have opportunities to work with a number of outstanding instructors and colleagues from around the state.

Sunday, March 27th 5-9 PM

LTC 503: Athletic Administration: Enhancing Organization Management.

LTC 506: Athletic Administration: Legal Issues (Title IX and Sexual Harassment)

Monday, March 28th 8 AM-12 PM

- LTC 502: Athletic Administration: Strategies of Organization Management.
- LTC 714: Athletic Administration: Dealing with Difficult People.

If you want to sit down and talk about certification (RAA, CAA, CMAA) for yourself please track me down at the state conference or email me at: bodonnell@stclaircyclones.org

New LTC courses that will be rolled out at next year's national conference.

- LTC 712: Ethical Decision Making in the Athletic Environment
- LTC 716: Partnering with parents to build a positive team culture in the 21st century

A few highlights at the National Conference this past December in Denver, CO.

- Tony Fischer of Minneapolis was elected to the NIAAA Board of Directors
- Craig Perry, CMAA and formerly of the MSHSL was inducted into the NIAAA Hall of Fame
- Ben Bauer, Cloquet Minnesota was recognized as the Male National Scholarship Winner
- Next year's National Conference will be held at ...
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2022 BOARD CANDIDATES

At the 2022 MNIAAA State Conference this spring, we will be conducting the first election since the modification of the MNIAAA constitution. In that modification, the board size was to be increased by two spots and the titles of 1st and 2nd Vice-President would be eliminated. There will only be one Vice-President who will be selected by the members of the board. The two new positions will represent two underserved populations...Female ADs and the BIPoC community. Each year, we will still vote on a board member representing regions geographically. For this year, we will also be electing a board member for the two groups listed above. In this election, the Female Representative will earn a four-year spot on the board and the BIPoC representative will earn a two-year spot. In two years, we will vote

again on a four-year term for the BIPoC rep.

The following individuals are candidates for these positions. Their biographies follow.

Geographic

Emmett Keenan – St. Cloud Cathedral
Tim Tungseth – Pine River-Backus

BIPoC

Kenny Maxey – Minneapolis Henry and FAIR
Aimee Pederson – Mahnomen

Female

Amy Cardarelle – Minneapolis South
Jill Johnson – Waconia



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2022 BOARD CANDIDATE

Emmitt Keenan, St. Cloud Cathedral



Education

- St. Michael-Albertville High School
- St. John's University

Professional Committees and Experience

- Athletics and Activities Director – St. Cloud Cathedral High School – 1998 to Present
- Region 5A Committee Chair 08-09
- MSHSL Classification Committee
- MNIAAA Region Rep (2003-2007 and 2011-2015)
- MNIAAA Strategic Planning Committee and Financial Planning Committee
- MSHSL Representative Assembly Delegate
- MSHSL Board of Directors 2013-2017
- District and Region 5A Triple-A Judge
- MSHSL ExCel Award Judge
- Section 8A Girls' & Boys' Soccer Manager
- Site Manager for many conference events
- Site Manager for many sub-section and section events
- Coordinator for Region 5A – managing many section tournaments
- MSHSL State Soccer Tournament Manager
- Assistant Tournament Manager – MSHSL State Baseball Tournament
- MSHSL State Golf Tournament Manager
- Work at many MSHSL State Tournaments
- Public Address Announcer at Section 5A Track Meet
- MSHSL Registered Softball and Baseball Official
- MSHSL State Softball Tournament Umpire

- Baseball and Softball Umpire Assigner for St. Cloud Officials' Association
- St. Cloud District 742 Local Education Activities Foundation past Board Member
- Treasurer Granite Ridge Conference

Memberships and Community Involvement

- Minnesota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MnIAAA)
- National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA)
- Minnesota State High School Coaches Association
- St. Cloud Morning Optimist Club
- Special Olympics Bowling and Floor Hockey Coach
- Board Member – ARISE (providing mainstream recreational opportunities for students with disabilities)

Awards

- JCPenney Golden Rule Winner
- ARC Minnesota Volunteer of the Year
- NIAAA State Award of Merit – 2007
- MnIAAA Class-A Athletic Administrator of the Year - 2014

Personal

Wife – Barb (41+ years)
Children - Abby (son-in-law Craig), Tom, Cody and Alan, Granddaughters Bayley and Morgan



2022 BOARD CANDIDATE

Tim Tungseth, Pine River-Backus



My name is Tim Tungseth and I am originally from Fergus Falls, MN where I graduated from Fergus Falls High School in 2003. After High School, I attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN where I graduated with a degree in Social Studies Education and Coaching in 2007. After teaching in Williston, ND and at Stephen-Argyle Central I returned to school to work on my Masters Degree at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA. During my time at Gonzaga, I served as a Graduate Assistant in both the Physical Education and Athletics Department where I taught undergraduate classes

and gained experience in Athletic Administration specifically working for the Athletic Facilities and Sports Information Departments.

I am currently in my 9th year as an Activities Director as I have previously served as AD at Crosby-Ironton High School (2013-2016), Maple Lake High School (2016-2020)



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and now am currently serving at Pine River-Backus High School (2020-present). My favorite thing about working as an AD is getting to have a positive impact on student athletes and to help provide them with an outstanding high school experience. In addition to that, I find working with outstanding coaches and fellow AD's to be one of my favorite aspects of the job. On a personal note, I have been married to my wife Molly for almost five years and we live in Brainerd, MN along with our three dogs (Meatball, Mabel and Monty).

In our very little spare time we enjoy spending time at the cabin in the summer, enjoying the outdoors, traveling, spending time with family & friends and I also work part-time at Roundhouse Brewery in Nisswa where my wife is a Manager.

Educational Background

- Fergus Falls High School – Fergus Falls, MN – May 2003
- High School Diploma

Concordia College – Moorhead, MN – April, 2007

- Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies Secondary Education – Minor in Coaching
- Certification: Minnesota teaching license

Gonzaga University – Spokane, WA – May, 2013

- Master of Arts in Sports and Athletic Administration

Employment History

Trinity Christian School – Williston, ND – August 2008 – August 2010

- Social Studies Teacher, Assistant Activities Director & Assistant Boys Basketball Coach

Stephen-Argyle Central – Stephen, MN – August 2010 – August 2011

- Social Studies Teacher & Assistant Boys Basketball & Track & Field Coach

Gonzaga University – Spokane, WA – August 2011 to May 2013

- Graduate Assistant – Department of Education and Athletics Department
- Gonzaga University Jeanne Foster Wardian Leadership Award Recipient - Spring 2013

Crosby-Ironton Public School District – Crosby, MN – July 2013 to July 2016

- Activities Director and Social Studies Teacher

Maple Lake Public School District – Maple Lake, MN – July 2016 to August 2020

- Activities Director and Social Studies Teacher
- MSHSL Region 5 District 17 Activities

Director of the Year - 2018

- Central Minnesota Conference President - 2018-2019
- Central Minnesota Conference Secretary - 2017-2018

PINE RIVER-BACKUS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT – Pine River, MN – August 2020 to Present

- Activities Director and Youth Sports Coordinator





2022 BOARD CANDIDATE

BIPoC Representative

Kenny Maxey
Minneapolis Henry and FAIR



Education

- BA Sociology, Drake University
- MA Educational Leadership, Saint Mary's University
- K-12 Administration License, St. Cloud University

Education Career Summary

- Athletic Director, Minneapolis Henry H.S. and FAIR School, 2017 – Present
- Athletic Director, Career/College Prep Teacher, School Administrative Manager, FAIR School, 2008-2012
- Student Learning Advocate, Coon Rapids High School, 2002-2008
- YMCA Program Director, 1999-2002
- Coaching Career Summary
- Head/Assistant Coach for Howard Pulley/ Nike EYBL, 2009-Present
- Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at Bloomington Kennedy, 2013-2016
- Head Girls Basketball Coach at FAIR School, 2011-2013
- Assistant Girls Basketball Coach at Coon Rapids High School, 2004-2008
- Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at Anoka High School, 2003-2004
- Assistant Boys Basketball Coach at Coon Rapids High School, 2002-2003

Leadership Highlights

- MSHSL Rep Assembly
- Region 6AA Committee Member
- MSHSL ExCEL Committee Member
- MSHSL Ad Hoc Committee Member
- Minneapolis Conference Director for Volleyball, Wrestling, and Badminton

Memberships

- Member of The Minnesota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association
- Member of The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association
- Member of The National Organization of Minority Athletic Directors

Hobbies

- Exercising, including riding my bike, lifting weights, and playing basketball.
- Writing short stories.
- Listening to music.
- Playing with my kids.

Personal

- Married 7 years to my wife Susie
- Children - Miles, Mateo, and Mila



2022 BOARD CANDIDATE

BIPoC Representative

**Aimee Pederson
Mahnomen**



About Me

I am a busy mom of two little boys—Easton (3) & Reed (1)—and am married to my very best friend; Erik is a self-employed farmer and we are lifelong residents of our small community. I am a proud enrolled member of the White Earth Nation and have dedicated much of career to youth and community engagement and outreach. We have one dog named Henry and we love spending time at the lake, cooking meals together and indulging in our love for seeing new places!

A strong communicator with an out-going personality and desire to inspire persons of all ages in developing themselves as well-rounded individuals, while promoting a healthy lifestyle of overall wellness and instilling a passion for fitness, sport and recreation; Proud member of White Earth Nation with a strong connection to community outreach and cultural enrichment.

Education

- M.S Sport Management & Athletic Administration
- SNHU '20
- B.S Exercise Science with minors in Food, Nutrition, Dietetics, and Coaching. Concordia College '14

Coaching and Career Summary

- American Indian Education Coordinator – ISD#432 2017 - Present / 5th year
- Activities Director – ISD#432 – Present / 1st year
- Program Director – Mahnomen Area Baseball – Present / 2 years
- Head Coach – Mahnomen Area Baseball – Present / 2 years
- Asst. Varsity Volleyball Coach – Mahnomen High School / 2 years
- Asst. Varsity Softball Coach – Ada –Borup High School / 4 years
- Chief Professional Officer –White Earth Nation Boys & Girls Clubs / 2015 – 2016

Leadership Highlights

- Minnesota Rural Education Association American Indian Advisory Committee—Member (Present)
- Mahnomen Area Community Fund – Committee Member (Present)
- Mahnomen Tribal Community Council Member (2018-2021)
- White Earth Nation Powwow Committee (2015-2018)
- Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota –Board Member (2016-2017)
- Insports Foundation Volunteer (2015-2016)



2022 BOARD CANDIDATE

Female Representative

Amy Carderelle
Minneapolis South



February, 2015 – present : Athletic Director, Minneapolis Public Schools (South, Feb. 2015-fall 2015, Edison fall 2015-2017, South 2017 – present)

2019 – present : Region 6AA committee, Sub Region 3 representative

2016 - present: Minneapolis Athena Awards, Committee member, 2021 Chairperson

Education

Edina High School – 1985

University of Wisconsin, Madison – BS in Education 1989, Varsity soccer team, 1985-1988

Family

Daughter – Jessica, student at Mitchell-Hamline, law clerk for Hennepin County Judge

Son – Nicholas, student at Normandale Community College

2 Rescue Dogs – Rosie and Walter

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2022 BOARD CANDIDATE

Female Representative

Jill Johnson
Waconia



Hello, my name is Jill Johnson and it is an honor to be a candidate to serve our student athletes and professional community as the Female Representative on the MNIAAA Board of Directors.

I grew up in Hastings, MN and while attending Hastings High School I was fortunate to have the opportunity to play soccer, basketball and softball as well as participate in the band and choir. I attended Mankato State University and earned a B.S. in Recreation and Sports Management and while at Mankato, I played softball for the Mavericks. In 2006, I became a Certified Athletic Administrator and in 2009, I earned a Master's degree in Sports Administration from the University of St. Thomas.

I spent the first eight years of my career as a sports administrator with the Minnesota Sports Federation (MSF), a non-profit sports organization programming sports leagues and post season tournaments in communities throughout the state of Minnesota. During that time I also had the privilege to coach softball at Park Center High School. In 2002, I was hired as an Activities Coordinator and Facilities Manager at Eden Prairie High School and served in that role until I became the Activities Director at St Cloud Tech High School

in 2009. In the fall of 2013, I was hired as the District 110 Activities Director and am honored to be able to serve the Waconia student participants and community in this capacity.

During my tenure as an activities administrator, I have welcomed opportunities to volunteer as a team member of a variety of committees, including chairing the MSHSL Return to Play Committee in 2020-2021. I have also served in leadership roles on the State AD Advisory Committee, a representative on the Region 2AA Committee and as a member of the National Women in Sports Day Committee. Additionally, I have enjoyed serving as a section manager for Cross Country, Nordic Ski, Dance Team, Gymnastics, Girls and Boys Basketball and supported the MSHSL State Cross Country, Nordic and Girls Basketball tournaments as an event worker.

It would be a privilege to serve on the MNIAAA Board of Directors and continue to work to fulfill our purpose of providing equitable opportunities and great experiences for all our student participants.

Thank you for your consideration and best wishes for a safe and healthy remainder to your school year!



GET TO KNOW...

ED FRIESEN

Region 1A
Bethlehem Academy



1. What is your educational background?

I am a graduate of Bethlehem Academy. I graduated from St. John's University with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with a secondary education minor. I came close to finishing my Master of Arts in Education Administration from St. Mary's University but life and work got in the way.

2. In what sports or activities were you active in high school and/or college?

In high school, I played basketball and was a manager for football and baseball, eventually becoming a student athletic trainer. At St. John's, I was a manager for the basketball team my first two years and then a student assistant coach my final two years.

3. What schools have you served as a teacher, coach, director, or administrator? How many years at each?

I am currently in my 30th year at Bethlehem Academy, 29th as Athletics/Activities Director. I previously taught at New Ulm Cathedral for two years. In addition to my A.D. duties, I also am the Technology Director and teach math part-time. This year I am also head boys basketball coach. I have coached boys basketball, girls basketball, baseball, softball and football in the past.

4. Who were some of the role models who have influenced your career as a coach, director, or athletic administrator?

As a senior in high school, I was a student aide for Ron Sevcik, who was our A.D. at the time. Ron was always extremely efficient. Dewey Van Orsow, Rick Canton, Rich Decker and Franz Boelter were the basketball coaches I had in high school. They were all great teachers of the game and instilling in us a responsible work ethic. Jim McClellan was our football coach. When I started working at BA, Ron, Franz and Jim then became my colleagues – great resources for me as a young teacher and coach. Ron Thibault was our long-time Dean of Students at Bethlehem Academy. He was always great at listening to everyone, putting everything in perspective and building consensus. Jim Smith, long-time head men's basketball coach at St. John's, is one of the classiest gentlemen I have ever known. When I first started as an A.D., Jerry Roberts at Medford, Ted Pelzl at NRHEG and Larry Milow at JWP were among the athletic directors that helped show me the ropes in the Gopher Conference. John Sumner at Shattuck-St. Mary's and Ron Mitchell at MN State Academy for the Deaf were great colleagues as well. Over the years, I have also had a good working relationship with Faribault High School Activities Directors Lowell Nomeland, Rich Oliphant, Ken Hubert and Danny DuChene.

5. Who are current colleagues who have made a positive impact on your work?

I have great colleagues in the Gopher Conference, Mid-Southeast Football District and Region 1A. They each bring different experiences and perspectives that have helped me to grow and implement new ideas. I know I can reach out to any of them for advice or a pick-me-up.

6. What has been your most memorable moment in interscholastic activities? What made it memorable?

It is really hard to identify a most memorable moment. There have been a number of times where I have gotten to see either a team or an individual achieve something exciting. The excitement of the 1999 football team scoring a touchdown after being shut out every game the previous season is a great memory. It's been wonderful watching the thrill of athletes winning a section championship for the first time and going to the state tournament. I have also enjoyed the connections made with student-athletes.

7. How would you describe the athletic climate in your community?

Over the years, I think we have had student-athletes who are very committed to working hard at their sport and parents who have been supportive and willing to volunteer.

8. What part of your job might be unique compared to other ADs around the state?

Being a small, Catholic school, there are just a lot of hats to wear sometimes: Lining the football field, dragging the softball/baseball diamond, making game programs, fundraising, recruiting volunteers, running the scoreboard, announcing, clerking at the track meet. I enjoy it all.

9. What is your favorite Minnesota sports venue whether high school, college, or pro? Why?

Watching a football game or basketball game at St. John's is among my favorite things. I'm really going to miss the Johnnie-Tommie games. And I also love the atmosphere when our school's Van Orsow Auditorium is packed for a volleyball match or basketball game with the band playing.

10. What are some of your spare time interests?

Spare time? What's that? I do enjoy doing things outside when the weather is nice. My golf game is atrocious, but it is still fun. I also enjoy learning about things. I've been Grand Knight for the Faribault Knights of Columbus for a few years. You might find me working bingo on some Wednesday nights.

11. Married? Children? If so, how are they involved because of your role as an administrator?

I am not married.





GET TO KNOW...

RICARDO JONES

Region 5AA
Maple Grove



1. What is your educational background?

Undergrad- University of St. Thomas, St. Paul MN, Grad School- Concordia University, St. Paul MN

2. In what sports or activities were you active in high school and/or college?

High School- Football, Basketball and Track & Field, College- Football

3. What schools have you served as a teacher, coach, director, or administrator? How many years at each?

Football Coach: DeLaSalle HS, MN (1 yr); Augsburg College, MN (2 yrs); Eden Prairie HS, MN (10 yrs); Administrator: Eden Prairie School District, MN (9 yrs); Maple Grove Senior High School (6 yrs).

4. Who were some of the role models who have influenced your career as a coach, director, or athletic administrator?

Barry Lieske- DeLaSalle HS football coach, HS Principal, School President; Mike Grant- Eden Prairie Football Coach, Activities Director; Conn McCartan- Eden Prairie HS Principal.

5. Who are current colleagues who have made a positive impact on your work?

Dr. Bart Becker- Maple Grove SH Principal, Rhonda Osatiuuk- Maple Grove Activities Admin Assistant, Bill Quan- AD @ Osseo SH, John Hedstrom- AD @ Park Center SH

6. What has been your most memorable moment in interscholastic activities? What made it memorable?

Playing in the State Championship game as a basketball player at DeLaSalle High School. The entire state tournament experience made it memorable. As an Administrator- The Softball State Tournament championship game. Watching the excitement on the girls faces when winning it all.

7. How would you describe the athletic climate in your community? We have very high athletic expectations in my community.

I am a very competitive person and the high expectations match my personality and the other school districts that I have worked for.

8. What part of your job might be unique compared to other ADs around the state?

I was tasked as serving as the COVID Coordinator for Maple grove Senior High.

9. What is your favorite Minnesota sports venue whether high school, college, or pro? Why?

US Bank Stadium, Target Center & Target Field- I grew up and went to High School in Downtown Minneapolis. Downtown Minneapolis will always have a special place in my heart. I love Minnesota's professional sport teams.

10. What are some of your spare time interests?

I love to work out/ exercise, travel and golf in my spare time.

11. Married? Children? If so, how are they involved because of your role as an administrator?

Married to Jennifer Jones-10 yrs. I have one son Bryce Myskevitz- 23 yrs old. My wife has attended a lot of games over the years. She currently runs the scoreboard for home volleyball games. She will also fill in for any game day position when needed (ex. ticket taker, admittance list attendant during Covid).

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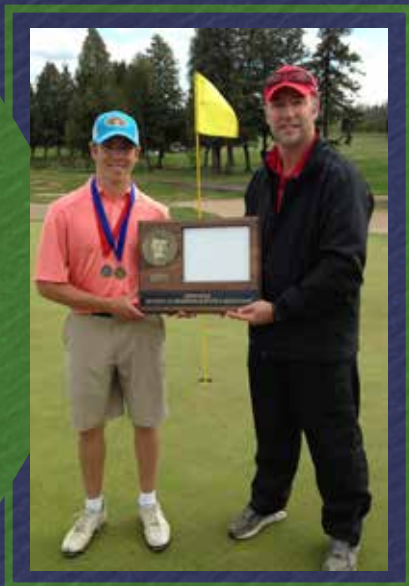


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GET TO KNOW...

JIM JAMES

Region 7A
Mesabi East



1. What is your educational background?

AA degree from Itasca Community College and a Bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education from University of Mn. Duluth.

2. In what sports or activities were you active in high school and/or college?

In high school I participated in Football, Basketball, and Baseball. I also played football at Itasca Community College where I got my AA degree.

3. What schools have you served as a teacher, coach, director, or administrator? How many years at each?

One year as substitute teacher Duluth public schools and coached C-Level Basketball there for 3 years. Two years teaching at Two Harbors HS and coaching Football and Golf. Twenty-four years at Mesabi East HS and have coached Football, Basketball and Golf here. Currently in my 23rd year coaching golf here. I have been the Athletic Director at Mesabi East for 21 years now.

4. Who were some of the role models who have influenced your career as a coach, director, or athletic administrator?

Dennis Holsmand was my Football and Basketball coach and Clark Bailey was my Baseball coach at Hill City High School. Dennis was also the Athletic Director at Hill City during my years there. I have also taken from every coach that I have played for and the veteran coaches I have coached with and against throughout my career. My 21 years as Athletic Director I worked with so many great AD's that have all influenced my career. Just to name a few, Wayne Pender - Grand Rapids, Roger Licari - Mesabi East, Chuk Klinker - Virginia, Bill Hare - Greenway, Tom Gillach - Mesabi East, Gary Bowen - Hermantown, Jim Larkin - Chisholm, Tim Scott - Hibbing, and all the great AD's I am currently working with in all of Region 7A and 7AA and across the state.

5. Who are current colleagues who have made a positive impact on your work?

My coaching staff impacts me each and every season as I feel I continue to learn how to better do my job from every situation we work through together. I am impacted by my staff that have coached 20 plus years all the way down to those in their first season.

6. What has been your most memorable moment in interscholastic activities?

There are a lot of memorable moments, but I think our trips to the State Tournament in Boys and Girls Basketball may stand near the top. It was so nice to see the pride of our community represented at the tournaments. I was also so proud of how our Athletes, Coaches, Cheerleaders, Band, and Student Section represented our school.

7. How would you describe the athletic climate in your community?

We are a fairly small district, but we offer 25 Varsity level activities. This leads to some programs having small numbers and maybe not as much success and hype that goes with that success. Each and every program, however, has support from its members and their families. It is nice to offer students the chance to participate in the activity they have the most passion for.

8. What part of your job might be unique compared to other ADs around the state?

I think the fact that we do offer so many programs for a small school is fairly unique. It is rewarding but presents challenges in creating schedules, finding coaches, officials, transportation, etc.

9. What is your favorite Minnesota sports venue whether high school, college, or pro? Why?

Gotta love the Xcel Energy Center to watch a hockey game, however Mesabi East High School just completed an outdoor sports complex which is state of the art! My first 21 years here our outdoor sports facilities have been less than desirable. We now have two turf fields and a third natural surface field. We have never had a track and now have what I would consider the best HS Track in Northern Minnesota.

10. What are some of your spare time interests?

In my spare time I love to Hunt, Fish, Camp, Snowshoe and just spend time outdoors with my family.

11. Married? Children? If so, how are they involved because of your role as an administrator?

Married to my wife Sherri of 23 years, four children, Josh-20, Kaitlynn-18, Evan-15 and Levi-11. My kids are all active in athletics year-round. They have grown into positive leaders in all their activities and in life in general. This makes my wife and I so proud of them.



GET TO KNOW...

ANDY OURADA

Region 3A
Redwood Valley



1. What is your educational background?

Graduated from Westbrook-Walnut Grove HS, Elementary Education from SMSU, Reading Licensure from MSU-Mankato, Community Education and Educational Leadership from St. Cloud State.

2. In what sports or activities were you active in high school and/or college?

I was involved in Football, Wrestling, Golf, Track and Field, FFA, and 3 act play.

3. What schools have you served as a teacher, coach, director, or administrator? How many years at each?

Westbrook Walnut grove (½ year as a para and long term sub) and Redwood Valley as 5th and 7th grade Math and Reading Teacher(12 years), Head Wrestling Coach(12 years), JH Football(5 years), Community Education and Activities Director (7 years)

4. Who were some of the role models who have influenced your career as a coach, director, or athletic administrator?

Paul Olson who is Principal at Westbrook-Walnut Grove was one of my HS coaches who persuaded me to be his assistant coach for a year has influenced my entire career as he gave me a chance and believed in me, that molded my entire career. Administrators Dennis Stoterau and Rick Ellingworth at Redwood Valley, fellow coaches at Redwood Valley, and the late Jim Lasley(even when I didn't want his advice).

5. Who are current colleagues who have made a positive impact on your work?

Activities Directors from the Big South Conference (especially Bruce Remme) and Region 3A.

6. What has been your most memorable moment in interscholastic activities?

Redwood River Riot Wrestling Tournament annually. What made it memorable? Each year we get to host one of the biggest Wrestling tournaments in Minnesota and each year the work leading up to it seems tireless and each year once we start the event, I am proud that we can hold such a great event supported by our community.

7. How would you describe the athletic climate in your community?

Supportive, we have a community that supports our kids and school with support and finances. We have a school Booster club that has recently pledged to fund all kids' activities fees for the future. This is being done by hosting an annual golf tournament.

8. What part of your job might be unique compared to other ADs around the state?

I hold the role of community Education and Activities director, I truly have an impact on all kids from birth through high school and into their adult lives in the roles I have.

9. What is your favorite Minnesota sports venue whether high school, college, or pro? Why?

Excel Energy Center for the State Wrestling Tournament, I have attended every year since being in 8th grade and the atmosphere is amazing for wrestling.

10. What are some of your spare time interests?

Hunting, fishing, golfing, going to concerts with my wife and friends, spending quality time with my kids.

11. Married? Children? If so, how are they involved because of your role as an administrator?

Married to my amazing wife Jackie (21 years), we have 4 awesome children- Lincoln (17), Austin (17), Hailyn (15) and Nolan (11). It is a family affair- my wife helps whenever needed and my kids get the call to run a clock or take tickets often, even though they may think it is a chore, they love it!!

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PROMOTING YOUR TEAMS & SMARTER FUNDRAISING

By Ray Dretske
President & Co-Founder
rSchooltoday



One of the best ways to build civic pride, local community, and increase the effectiveness of your fundraising efforts is to have college-quality team sites that provide a great look as well as consistency across all your teams. But who's got time to even think about this unless you are a large program? We can help!

Last fall, rSchool acquired VNN Sports, the top-selling high school Team Web site company in the US, and Rally Around Us, a turnkey mobile fundraising platform that averages over \$10,000 per team fundraiser! We are excited about the additions to the rSchool Family because they extend our ability to help your program in so many other ways! rSchool now serves over 11,000 schools across the U.S. And, we can now offer you a VNN site at NO cost as an introductory offer.



Of course, Schedules, Rosters and Scores entered in rSchool write simultaneously to the MSHSL. Now, they also share in real time to your VNN site with its huge social media integration, Hometown Tickets integration, and livestreaming integration! The rSchool+VNN combination is 'best of breed,' and allows your community to celebrate your student athletes at a higher level.

Fundraising is a necessary evil to keep your programs thriving, but I have always hated students selling products that none of us need or want to keep their programs alive. Now, it doesn't have to be hard. Our Rally Around Us team will meet with interested coaches and show them how to generate more in less time with less effort by leveraging the power of the social media baked into Rally Around Us. And the average is over \$10,000 per team! These are numbers usually reserved for only football and only once per year. Multiple teams at your school can do campaigns in the same year without over-burdening your community. It doesn't get any easier or more effective.

Contact your rSchool or VNN rep to learn more or contact us at: info@rschooltoday.com.



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SHARED GOALS, BETTER OUTCOME FOR ALL

By Michael Wall
YMCA Center for Youth Voice

At the YMCA Center for Youth Voice (CYV), we share your goal of providing extracurricular activities that help students strengthen their character and skills, leading to greater success in school and life. In part, our commitment comes from personal experience – each of us on the CYV team benefitted from participating in school-based activities, including show choir, athletics, robotics, debate, and theater. It also comes from listening to the young people who participate in the YMCA Youth in Government (YIG) and Model United Nations (MUN) programs every year. “YIG makes me feel like I belong somewhere. It has given me self-confidence. It gives me something I can be truly passionate about. I have met my best friends through the program. It has taught me how to be a leader and a good follower.”

As an Activities Director, you work hard every day to deliver important developmental programs and experiences that enrich a student’s middle and high school experience. We are hoping you will consider including Youth in Government and Model United Nations in your school’s roster of approved activities.

If you are not familiar with them, YIG and MUN are simulation-based civic education programs that allow middle and high school students to serve in model governments at the local, state, national and international levels. In Minnesota, the YMCA Center for Youth Voice partners with secondary teachers statewide to build school-based student delegations. Each student is a part of a designated program area, and has responsibilities for preparing materials that will be shared at either the YIG conference in January or the MUN conference in late March. Some students participate in both conferences; some choose to only participate in one. Both conferences include focused discussions on current issues, a wide variety of social events, engaging evening activities, time for small-group reflection, and chances for recognition.

Both programs lean heavily on the concept of youth-adult partnership, and we ask participating students to step up and step in to ensure the program’s success. However, we also need an adult leader – most often a teacher – to help coordinate, prepare, and support the students in the delegation. We think including Youth in

Government and Model United Nations in your district's list of approved extracurricular activities can be a win-win-win:

- You expand your district's activities portfolio with proven, high-quality programs
- Teachers feel recognized and rewarded for the time and effort they put into ensuring student success in the same way you do when you contract them to coach a team or direct a play
- Students seeking this kind of experience find a place both to belong and to further develop the skills they will use as community members, as adults, and as local and global citizens.

We understand that the process for adding programs to a district's approved list can vary district by district. We would appreciate the opportunity to learn more about your district's process, tell you more about our programs, and discuss how we can better work together for the benefit of your students.

Please contact our director of outreach, Michael Wall, at 612-263-9893 or michael.wall@ymcanorth.org. And thank you so much for all that you do to improve the student experience and student outcomes.

