

for five years. After serving as an assistant coach for one year, life took my wife and I west to Colorado Springs, Colorado, where I taught US History and coached football and wrestling at Carson Middle School and one year at Colorado College.

In 2009, my family and I moved to Minnesota, where I served as a social studies teacher and assistant football coach at Bigfork School from 2009-2013. In the spring of 2014, I was honored to be selected as a teacher and head football coach at Grand Rapids High School, a position I have held since.

Since moving to Minnesota, I have earned an M.Ed. from Bemidji State University and a K-12 Principal license from Hamline University. Continuing to grow as an individual and professional is central to my beliefs; serving as the VP in the MSHSCA continues that path.

Outside of the classroom and field, I have served as the Boys Sports Representative on the Region 7AA Committee and as the Region 7AA Rep to the MSHSL Representative Assembly. These experiences have allowed me to be a voice for coaches in Northeast Minnesota, advancing causes, addressing concerns, and being a solution generator for our student-athletes through the coaches I could represent. I have also been heavily involved in the Minnesota Football Coaches Association as a clinic presenter, on the North All-Star Selection Committee, and as a 4A representative to the MFCA/MSHSL Football Advisory Board.

I look forward to continuing that advocacy across the state of Minnesota.

My career has been shaped by the experiences provided

to me at a young age. Athletics and activities are the lifeblood of any school and school community. They serve as the front porch of the district, displaying the heart and soul of each school for the world to see. The power of our profession is great. We change the trajectory of the lives we are entrusted to serve in innumerable ways-many of which will not be visible for years to come. I am who I am because of the coaches who impacted my life and journey.

Our profession, in many ways, is at a crossroads. It has become more difficult to find quality teachers and coaches across Minnesota; educational athletics continues to be pushed by "pay-for-play" based models and other outside forces that erode the true meaning of being a coach and are antithetical to the mission of the MSHSCA. I look forward to the opportunity and challenge of leading and making meaningful changes to our organization, creating opportunities for coaches, and ensuring a positive, collaborative working environment for all coaches and, in turn, all our student-athletes.

I am excited about this opportunity and your support. My experiences have allowed me to work with multiple people from diverse backgrounds. My ability to affect positive change has been demonstrated throughout my career. I look forward to working for and serving all members of the MSHSCA in the future. Please reach out with questions or if I can be of service! My email is gspahn@isd318.org, and my phone number is 715.220.2846. Thank you for your support!



Jeremy Digiovanni

Jeremy Digiovanni - Walker-Hackensack-Akeley

My name is Jeremy Digiovanni, and I am finishing my 27th year in public education. I am the Activities and Community Education Director at Walker-Hackensack-Akeley High School in north-central Minnesota. Before moving into the position two years ago, I taught fifth grade in elementary and middle school settings for the entirety of my career in the classroom. During those two-plus decades, I also coached football, basketball, and baseball at the high school level. I was fortunate to be part of several great programs that allowed me to work with many outstanding students and be part of fantastic coaching staffs, both of which allowed me to meet and work alongside a network of people that helped me grow professionally as a coach and personally in developing friendships that have continued long after the games and practices were finished. These relationships are a large part of why I enjoy the coaching profession so much and one of the reasons I remain active in the coaches association after moving into my new role outside of coaching.

Over the years, there have been many highlights as an assistant and head coach. Early in my career, I was for-



Greg Spahn

Greg Spahn - Grand Rapids

Educational athletics has been a part of my life since my formative years. I grew up on a dairy farm in Southern Wisconsin and attended Middleton High School. While there, I participated in multiple sports, most notably football. After graduation, I was fortunate to attend the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, participating in football

fortunate to be part of two state championship coaching staffs in Albany for the 1997 Class AAA football team and the 2001 Class AA girls basketball team at St. Michael-Albertville. The students and coaches I worked with in those years provided many great memories and prepared me for my head coaching opportunities with the Rogers and Elk River girls basketball teams. During my tenure in Elk River, I was blessed to be involved in basketball and football, where we had several state tournament teams, including the 2017 Class AAAA girls' basketball championship, in my first season as the head coach for the Elks. Not only did I learn about excellence from an achievement aspect, but I developed a much deeper appreciation for developing the whole person both as a leader of young people and also as a member of a coaching staff that cared about the mental, social, and spiritual well-being of one another in addition to working together to achieve athletic goals.

As an AD now, I can serve as a leader and mentor to coaches and advisors across our athletic and fine arts programs. I enjoy listening to our coaches and advisors when they celebrate their successes or need someone to lend an ear when they are going through a rough patch. I was lucky to have many great people who helped me as a coach. Now, I can share my experiences to help others and give back to a wonderful yet challenging profession that has given me many great memories and relationships. For this reason, I would welcome the opportunity to serve in this leadership position where I can further assist our association in remaining a key part of supporting our coaches at all stages of their careers. This will enable us to

continue to give our students first-class experiences that will help them be well-rounded, successful people well after their high school careers are in the past.



Kyle Haberman

Kyle Haberman - Perham

Growing up in Kindred, North Dakota, sports were always a passion of mine. From playing basketball, football, and baseball to competing in state basketball tournaments in 2002 and 2003, I learned valuable lessons about teamwork, dedication, and perseverance. This passion for athletics led me to pursue a degree in Social Studies Education with a minor in coaching at MSUM while simultaneously coaching basketball, baseball, and golf.

For the past 15 years, I've dedicated myself to teaching and coaching in Minnesota at Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton, Lake Park-Audubon, and, currently, Perham. My commitment to education extends beyond the classroom, as evidenced by my Master's degree in Coaching/Athletic Administration from Concordia University-Irvine, obtained in 2014.

My coaching journey has been rewarding and filled with memorable experiences. While leading the LPA boys basketball team, I guided them to two state tournaments, including the school's historic first appearance in 2016. I was also humbled to receive two Section 6A Coach of the Year awards.

Additionally, I've coached boys golf for several years and currently hold the Head Boys' Basketball Coach position in Perham.

Beyond the wins and losses, my deepest passion lies in serving students and helping them develop their full potential. Coaching provides a unique platform to mentor young individuals, instill valuable life skills, and foster a love for the game. Alongside my wife Traci, I am the proud parent of three wonderful children, Kynlee, Quinn, and Chase, who constantly inspire me to be a better leader, coach, and mentor.

The MSHSCA is crucial in supporting coaches and fostering a thriving athletic community in Minnesota. As Vice President, I'm committed to leveraging my experience and passion to further empower coaches, advocate for their needs, and create even more impactful opportunities for student-athletes.

I'm confident that together, we can continue to build a stronger MSHSCA that serves students, coaches, and the future of athletics in our state. I encourage you to learn more about my vision and welcome your support in this election.



Lon Boike

Lon Boike - Crookston High School

Born and raised on a farm just outside Clara City, MN, approximately 100 miles west of Minneapolis, I developed a passion for sports early on.

Growing up surrounded by neighbors, we engaged in various sports activities almost daily, fueling my competitive spirit and honing my athletic abilities. My junior year at Clara City High School, now known as MACCRA, I had the privilege of participating in the MSHSL Class A Boys' Basketball state tournament during the era when there were only two classes (A & AA), and I proudly lettered in four sports.

My educational journey led me to Ridgewater College in Willmar, where I earned my A.A. degree while participating in basketball and track. As part of the basketball team, we secured conference championships for two consecutive years and qualified for the Minnesota Junior College State Tournament. Additionally, I was honored as the team's MVP in track.

Continuing my academic and athletic pursuits, I transferred to Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, earning my B.S. in teaching with a focus on Health/Physical Education and coaching. During my time there, I served as an Assistant Men's Basketball Coach and played baseball for the Mustangs. Furthering my education, I pursued a Master of Arts in Teaching degree at Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD, where I also served as a graduate assistant for Men's Basketball.

My coaching career has taken me to various institutions, including Becker High School, Audubon Public Schools, the College of St. Teresa, and Clarke University in Dubuque, IA. At Clarke University, I achieved success, transforming the basketball, volleyball, and softball programs into top-ranking teams and eventually assum-

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ing the role of Athletic Director. My leadership contributed to the school's attainment of the conference All Sports Trophy, marking a significant turnaround for the athletic department. Later, I would be inducted into the Clarke University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Subsequently, I served as the Athletic Director at the University of Minnesota,

Crookston, before transitioning into the investment business and joining Crookston High School, where I have dedicated the past 17 years to coaching and teaching Physical Education. My coaching involvement in various sports (football, basketball, softball, soccer, track/ & field, volleyball), committees, and educational initiatives reflects my

commitment to fostering student success both on and off the field.

With a Master's Degree plus 40 credits and nearing completion of my Specialists license, I am equipped with the knowledge and experience to excel in the role of Vice President with the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association. My

dedication to student development, coupled with my leadership abilities and communication skills, positions me as a strong candidate for this position. I am eager to contribute to the association's mission and would be honored to serve as Vice President. Thank you for considering my candidacy.