

## B/A/N/Q/U W/A/R/D

MINNESOTA INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

# MARCH 24 - 26, 2020 s edge convention center/8 kelly inn - /st/ cloud, mn





### **MnIAAA Recognition Banquet**

Pre-Banquet Music and National Anthem by St. Cloud Cathedral "Minnesingers" directed by Jonathan Rydberg

Presiding – Brent Schimek, Deer River MnIAAA 1st Vice President

Invocation - Craig Morgan, MVL

#### Region Athletic/Activity Administrators of the Year

Introduced by Matt Mattson, Champlin Park
MnIAAA 2nd Vice President

- 1A Chris Pack, Hayfield
- 2A Ron Erpenbach, Norwood Young America
- 3A Bob Grey, Montevideo
- 4A Steve Jensen, West Lutheran
- 5A Scott Buntje, Albany
- 6A Norm Gallant, Wadena-Deer Creek
- 7A Scott Ross, Two Harbors
- 8A Doreen Zierer, Bagley
- 1AA Lisa Quednow, Austin
- 2AA Jill Johnson, Waconia
- 3AA Sandra Setter Larsen, Eagan
- 4AA Jeanne Kranz, St. Paul Washington Technology Magnet
- 5AA Mike Smith, Totino Grace
- 6AA Patti Weldon, Robbinsdale Armstrong
- 7AA Anne Campbell, Grand Rapids
- 8AA David Niemi, Becker







#### Retiring Athletic/Activity Administrators

Presented by Matt Mattson, Champlin Park MnIAAA 2nd Vice President

Steve Bengtson, Warroad William Feuchtenberger, Southland Marc Helmrichs, Pequot Lakes David Mergens, St. Paul Humboldt Craig Rayman, Glenville-Emmons Patti Weldon, Robbinsdale Armstrong

#### **MnIAAA Student Athlete Scholarship Winners**

Presented by Brad O'Donnell, St Clair

Jacob Keller, Monticello AnnaGrace Nelson, Cambridge-Isanti

Dinner Served Music: Minnesingers, St. Cloud Cathedral Jonthan Rydberg, Director

#### School Associations "State Award of Merit"

Presented by Dan Johnson, Hopkins David Wicker, Minneapolis Schools

#### Hall of Fame Inductees

Presented by Nick Rathmann, The Blake School Dr. David Hartmann, Alexandria Kevin Merkle, Northfield, MSHSL Gerald Keenan, St. Paul Harding Byron Olson, Lakeville North

#### Athletic/Activities Administrators of the Year

Presented by Matt Mattson MNIAAA 2nd Vice President, Champlin Park

Paul Krueger Class A Activities Administrator of the Year Bob Grey, Montevideo

Pete Veldman Class AA Activities Administrator of the Year Patti Weldon, Robbinsdale Armstrong







### MnIAAA Scholarship

### How High School Athletics Has Impacted My Life

by **Jacob Keller**Monticello High School

In the United States alone, there are over eight million students who participate in high school athletics. High schools are expanding their sports programs beyond the traditional sports. This variety allows students to participate and compete in something they are passionate about. High school athletics provides athletes with a competitive environment while still allowing athletes and teams to have fun. High school athletics has provided me the opportunity to learn valuable lessons, develop lifelong friendships, and learn about myself as an individual.

In sports, there are valuable lessons taught that will not only lead to success, but they will also be beneficial in other areas of life. Involvement in athletics has helped me develop important life-long skills: sportsmanship, confidence, teamwork, time management, dedication, optimism, persistence, and hard work. Having the opportunity and awareness to understand that there is more to sports, than simply the game itself or being an athlete, has significantly benefited me. I am able to apply these skills to my academics, leadership positions, and summer job. My success in these three areas can be attributed to the valuable lessons I have learned through sports. There is more to the game than winning and losing. Participating in high school athletics has taught me





how to be humble, and the effort I put into something is what I will get out of it.

Participating in athletics throughout high school has given me the opportunity to develop friendships with teammates, coaches, and faculty members. Some of my closest friends have been made through the connections I have created by playing sports. Since I have played at the varsity level in all three of my sports since freshman year, I had the opportunity to meet numerous new people who were older than me, the same age as me, and younger than me. The variety of teammates I came in contact with allowed me to learn from the older players, lead the younger players, and build as a team with all of the players. The coaches and faculty I met throughout sports have helped develop me into a better athlete, student, and person in general. I have created a network of people to support me while playing high school athletics. Two of my coaches are the biggest role models in my life, and they have helped develop me into the person I am today.

High school athletics have been an important part of my life. The countless hours spent on the field, court, and track will always be some of my favorite memories. I have learned valuable lessons from my coaches and teammates that have not only helped me in sports but in school and other activities as well. These skills and lessons will continue to benefit me in my future. Not only will these lessons and skills benefit me, but so will the friends and mentors I have acquired through high school sports. High school athletics provided me an opportunity to learn who I am and what I find important. High school athletics have developed me into a well-rounded individual. The awards and accolades I have received throughout high school athletics do not define me as an individual. Rather, it is the life lessons and skills that have shaped my character.







### **MnIAAA Scholarship**

### How High School Athletics Has Impacted My Life

by AnnaGrace Nelson
Cambridge-Isanti

My high school Principal, Dr. Steve Gibbs, says repeatedly, "In order to succeed in anything, one needs to be a well-rounded individual." Participation in athletics and other extracurricular activities has extreme power to shape an individual. Morals and values are often taught through activities, but a true sense of teamwork is learned through experience in sports.

Individual skill is the backbone of being a good athlete, especially in gymnastics. However, there is such a difference in success when there is a foundation of support throughout a team. So many of the opportunities I've been blessed with wouldn't have happened without my teams' successes. These experiences have been major events, like team state, but also simple actions: team bonding, communication, and simply working together as a team all are all motivators for team success. Improving for the benefit of the team is more important than doing it for myself.

Secondly, I've been on a team where an athlete's decisions cost both herself and the team, which has led me to be wise about my own decisions and be an example to others. On my gymnastics team, there is a wide age range from 7th to 12th grade. With this span of maturity and awareness, it is crucial to





have strong leaders that reach out to young athletes. I have experienced this from both sides, as a shy 7th grader to now as a leader amongst my peers. As a senior, I was not selected as a captain. It was devastating to me at first because of how much I had put into the team. However, this has taught me it isn't about personal accomplishment and the award of a title that makes me a leader. The team's success and the fun of the sport is not determined by a title, either. It is the experience together, the bonds between a family of athletes, and the hard work and determination of each individual that creates the best atmosphere for success. I can still hold the responsibility of leading my team well, showing my commitment to them, and wholeheartedly loving the sport.

In tenth grade, I decided to step out of my comfort zone and join the soccer team. I didn't feel that I fit in, and I didn't have the experience that the other girls had. I questioned whether I was helping or hurting the team because I knew they depended on my best effort. It would have been easy to quit, but instead I gained understanding, friendships, the success of rising to a challenge, and an opportunity to both extend and receive grace. My experience with the girl's soccer team will stay with me as a reminder to persevere when times get rough.

Each sport has allowed me to use my abilities in different ways. Soccer is completely team centered, gymnastics is both team and individual, and track is mainly individual. In life, there are times to use skills in each of these ways and settings. Through my experiences, I have been able to learn to communicate, work towards goals, and motivate others, and have forgiveness for others and myself when I don't succeed right away. My involvement in athletics is something that I will never forget as I continue to learn and grow.









# National High School Federation Award of Merit

### **Dave Wicker**

Minneapolis Public Schools

Presented by Dan Johnson, Hopkins

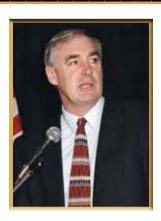
Dave Wicker is the Assistant Director of Athletics for the Minneapolis Public Schools and has been selected by a committee of his peers as the 2020 MnIAAA State Award of Merit recipient.

Dave was born in New Orleans Louisiana and is a 1979 graduate of Burnsville High School. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Bemidji State University in 1983. His graduate studies include a Master's Degree in Athletic Administration from the University of St. Thomas in 1985. Dave started teaching Mathematics and Physical Education for the Minneapolis Public Schools in 1983. Dave became the Athletic Director at Patrick Henry High in 1999 and progressed to the District Office in 2011 as Assistant Director of Athletics for 29 middle and high schools. During his tenure Dave has coached baseball, football, hockey and math team. During his career, Dave has served in numerous leadership capacities including: Minnesota State High School League Foundation Committee Member and Treasurer; MSHSL Prep BowlTeam Host; MSHSL State Baseball Site Manager; Section Tournament Manager in Football, Basketball and Golf; MSHSL Representative Assembly Delegate and Board Member; Metro Officials Negotiations Team member; MSHSL AD Advisory Committee Member; and Moderator/Presenter at MnIAAA conferences.

Dave and his wife of 32 years Karin met while teaching at Patrick Henry High in Minneapolis. They have two children – Matt (29), who is married to Kelsey with one daughter Norah (6 months) and Mark (27). Matt graduated from Holy Cross University in Massachusetts and works for Disney's Animal Kingdom in Orlando, Florida. Mark graduated from Santa Clara University and works in Communications in San Francisco. California.







# 2020 MnIAAA Hall of Fame Dr. David Hartmann

Alexandria

Presented by Nick Rathmann, The Blake School MNIAAA Hall of Fame Chair

Dr. David Hartmann is a graduate from the University of Minnesota Morris. He went on to attend Minnesota State University Mankato where he earned his MA in Athletic Administration. From there he would travel to the University of Iowa where he would earn his PhD in Athletic Administration.

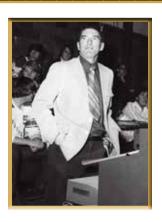
Hartmann started teaching in 1974 at New Ulm. There he taught grades 1-12 in physical education, social studies and health. In 1993 he moved to Alexandria to serve as Activities Director. During his tenure, he managed section and conference championships, served as a conference liaison for many activities, and was instrumental in establishing the conference Knowledge Bowl and Math Team championships.

David was an active member of the MnIAAA. He served as MSHSL Board of Directors President in 1999. He planned new board member orientation, organized and led board member Fall Workshop, and chaired several conference placement committees.

A colleague of David's wrote, "David Hartmann is a leader in every sense of the word. He has mentored many athletic directors that were new to the job and conference and is always willing to offer help and advice with well thought out responses to questions and issues."







## 2020 MnIAAA Hall of Fame

### **Gerry Keenan**

St. Paul Harding

Presented by Nick Rathmann, The Blake School MNIAAA Hall of Fame Chair

Gerry Keenan is a graduate of St. Paul Wilson High School. He began his six-decade St. Paul City School District career in 1960 as a teacher and coach at Mechanic Arts High School. In 1975, he moved within the district to St Paul Harding where he would work until he retired in 2017.

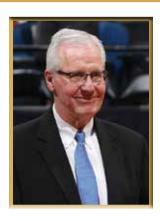
Under his leadership, he is credited with saving middle school athletics in St. Paul in the midst of a budget crunch He also served as a member of the League's Athletic Directors advisory committees and he has held leadership roles on Region committees and in other athletic associations.

He has served the MnIAAA as a presenter and liaison for MSHSL to MnIAAA in addition to attending many State and National Conferences. Gerry won the State Award of Merit from the NIAAA. Among his many awards already received, Gerry was inducted into the MSHSL Hall of Fame and the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

A colleague of Gerry's once described him as "an incredible ambassador for the city of St. Paul and an ambassador for kids. He is a huge proponent of athletics in the city of St. Paul."







# 2020 MnIAAA Hall of Fame Kevin Merkle

Northfield

Presented by Nick Rathmann, The Blake School MNIAAA Hall of Fame Chair

Kevin Merkle is a graduate of North St Paul High School. He played both football and baseball at Westmar College in Iowa. He had stops in Grand Marias and Newton, Iowa before find a home in Northfield.

Kevin's impressive career includes serving as head football coach, head baseball coach, and running a youth baseball program among many other positions, He served as an Athletic Administrator for fourteen years at Northfield before joining the Minnesota State High School League as an Associate Director for 16 years. His achievements as an Athletic Administrator are themed by being an advocate for all students.

He was a tireless worker at the State level. He has served the MnIAAA as a presenter and liaison for MSHSL to MnIAAA. He served on the NFSHSA Football Rules Committee and the Advisory Committee for National Athletic Directors Committee. Among his many awards already received, Kevin was inducted into the MSHSL Hall of Fame, has won a NFHS Citation Award, won the Minnesota Football Coaches Association Distinguished Service Award, inducted into the Minnesota State Basketball Coaches Association Hall of fame, and the Minnesota Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

A colleague of Kevin's wrote a letter of recommendation which stated "Kevin was a brilliant advocate for education-based athletics at every turn. His impact on Northfield and the entire State of Minnesota has simply been tremendous."







# 2020 MnIAAA Hall of Fame Byron Olson

Lakeville

Presented by Nick Rathmann, The Blake School MNIAAA Hall of Fame Chair

Byron Olson is a graduate of Canby High School. He earned his B.A. from the University of Minnesota Morris. He spent 13 years in Benson, MN before working at Monticello, Farmington, and Lakeville. At Benson, Byron served as a teacher, assistant football coach, wrestling coach, and athletic director.

Many know Byron from his love of officiating. Since 1972, he spent 27 years officiating high school football and officiated wrestling at both the high school and college levels. He has represented Minnesota on the National Federation High School Wrestling Rules Committee.

Larry has served the MnIAAA in many ways. He has served on numerous MSHSL committees, MSHSL state tournament manager for 25 years, as an official, and a MSHSL Rules Interpreter. He won the MnIAAA Activities Director of the Year in 2009.

A colleague of Larry's wrote a letter of recommendation which stated "No matter what community, Byron has always been active in local community service events with his wife Peg. He always represents his community and Minnesota well. Byron Olson is a person of tremendous integrity."







# PAUL KRUEGER CLASS A AD of the YEAR

### **Bob Grey**

Montevideo

Presented by Matt Mattson, Champlin Park MnIAAA Second Vice President

Bob Grey is the Activities Director, Elementary Principal and Community Education Administrator for the Montevideo School District.

An 1982 graduate of Estherville High School, Bob received his B.S. degree in Mathematics from South Dakota State University. His graduate studies include a Masters of Education in Mathematics from the University of Minnesota and Educational Administration Licensure from St. Mary's University. Bob's teaching career began in the Montevideo Schools in the fall of 1988. He became Athletic Director in 1998 and in 2011 he also became the Elementary Principal and administrator of the Community Education programs. During his tenure at Montevideo, Bob has coached in the football, basketball, baseball and track programs at a variety of levels including 2 years as the head football coach.

His service to the MnIAAA includes three years on the Executive Board, and past President. He also served on various committees starting with the first MnIAAA Strategic Plan, was a Region Representative for four years, and has presented at the spring conference. His service to Region 3A includes a six-year term that concluded with being selected as its Chairman. Also was one of its delegates to MSHSL Representative Assembly, and is currently in his 7th year as the Sub-Region 12 Coordinator.

His Minnesota State High School League background includes a four-year term on its Board of Directors, serving as the treasurer in his final year. Bob is a member of the MSHSL Education advisory committee along with serving on the Dance Team Rules committee and works the volleyball, soccer, track and field, both the girls' and boys' basketball state tournaments and the Prep Bowl.

Bob and his wife of 33 years Mary, an Elementary Physical Education teacher at Yellow Medicine East, have two children – Tyler, the Assistant Athletic Director at the University of St. Thomas, and his wife Abby, a 2nd grade teacher in the Lakeville School District and daughter Kiersti a 3rd grade teacher and Assistant Dance Team coach in the Marshall School District.







# PETE VELDMAN CLASS AA AD of the YEAR

Patti Weldon
Robbinsdale-Armstrong

Presented by Matt Mattson, Champlin Park MnIAAA Second Vice President

Patti Weldon is a 1980 graduate from Detroit Lakes High School. She earned her B.S. degree in Physical Education and Health with a minor in Coaching from Bemidji State University. Her graduate studies include a Masters degree in Kinesiology with a certification in Adapted Education from the University of Minnesota. Patti received her CAA in 2010.

In 1984, Patti began her teaching and coaching career at Bloomington Jefferson where she was an assistant girls basketball coach and head girls swim coach with 7 state tournament appearances. In 1987 she continued her teaching and coaching for the Robbinsdale Area School District. Patti was the head girls basketball coach for 16 years at Armstrong where she led the Falcons to 4 conference and 3 section titles and was named Section Coach of the Year 2 times.

Patti became the Activities Director for Robbinsdale Armstrong in 2003 where she oversees both athletics and fine arts programs. The school has won 71 section titles and 25 state championships under her leadership. She has been named Region 6AA Administrator of the Year in both 2009 and 2020.

Her service to the MNIAAA and MSHSL includes being a region representative, member of the Hall of Fame committee, Region 6AA executive committee member since 2009, Region 6AA Section Lacrosse Coordinator since 2007, MSHSL Officials Advisory Committee, member of the Transfer Rule Advisory Committee and a speaker for New Athletic Directors.

A colleague of Patti's stated, "When I think of attributes that Patti possesses, I come up with one word: Quality. Patti has always concerned herself and the programs at Armstrong with hiring quality coaches/advisors, operating quality facilities and running quality programs. She has dedicated herself to making sure that all students feel valued and respected as they involve themselves in the activities programs at Armstrong."



### **New Administrators Workshop**

August 11th & 12th, 2020

### **NIAAA/NHFS National Conference**

December 11th - 15th, 2020 Tampa, Florida

CHICAGON CONTRACTOR

### MnIAAA 51st Annual Conference

March 22nd-24th, 2021

Kelly Inn and Rivers Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud

MINNESOTA INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES



ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION







<b>YEAR</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
2011	John Schumacher	Park Rapids
2011	Lee Alger	Tartan
2012	Terry Bentele	Granada-Huntley-East Chain
2012	Tom Johnson	Hastings
2013	Fred Sailer	Perham
2013	John Washington	Minneapolis Schools
2014	Emmett Keenan	St. Cloud Cathedral
2014	Tom Graupmann	Northfield
2015	Rick Fischer	Sauk Centre
2015	Mark Kuisle	Rochester Century
2016	Dave Schroeder	Maple Lake
2016	Ken Hubert	Faribault
2017	Bruce Woitas	Sleepy Eye St. Mary's
2017	Tim Hermann	White Bear Lake
2018	John Vraa	New London-Spicer
2018	Jeff Whitney	Rochester Mayo
2019	Marc Helmrichs	Pequot Lakes
2019	Brian Hegseth	Centennial
2020	Bob Grey	Montevideo
2020	Patti Weldon	Robbinsdale-Armstrong

For a complete list of past award winners please visit www.MNIAAA.org

# AWARD OF MERIT

<b>YEAR</b>	<u>RECIPIENT</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	
2011	John Schumacher	Park Rapids	
2012	Don Hulbert	Moorhead	
2013	Les Zellmann	St. James	
2014	Dr. Dave Hartmann	Alexandria	
2015	Marv Peters	Rochester Lourdes	
2016	Jaime Sherwood	Wayzata	
2017	Brad O'Donnell	St. Clair	
2018	Tom Graupmann	Northfield	
2019	Bob Grey	Montevideo	
2020	David Wicker	Minneapolis Schools	

For a complete list of past award winners please visit www.MNIAAA.org



# HALL OF FAME



<u>YEAR</u> 2011	RECIPIENT Sharon Euerle	SCHOOL Mankato West
2012	Neil Pierce  Don Hazeman	Alden-Conger Red Lake
	Brad Johnson Jim Lasley Wayne Pender	Rushford-Peterson Redwood Falls Grand Rapids <sub>-</sub>
2013	Gary Addington Douglas MacIver	Rochester Public Schools Duluth Denfeld
2014	Ron Dobbs Kathy Fredricksen Dwight Lundeen	New London-Spicer Moose Lake Becker
2015	Elmer Menage Don Miller	Luverne Hastings
2016	Glen Hasselberg Wayne Huffman Scott Larson	Staples-Motley Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa Apple Valley
2017	George Barnard Raalph Hagberg Barb Lehman	Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Kenyon Robbinsdale Cooper
2018	Rollie Johnson Wally Connaker Jay Johnson	Blake Pine City Eden Valley-Watkins
2019	Tom Conzemius Robert Scripture Larry Traetow	Sauk Rapids-Rice, Park Rapids New Prague Jackson County Central
2020	Dr David Hartmann Kevin Merkle Gerald "Jerry" Keenan Byron Olson	Alexandria Northfield St. Paul Harding Lakeville North



# DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



<b>YEAR</b>	RECIPIENT	<u>SCHOOL</u>
2011	Art Downey	St. Paul Central
	Gene Glynn	Waseca
	Stephanie Klaviter	New Ulm Cathedral
	Karl Mecklenberg	Edina West
	Jenny Potter	Edina
2012	Dave Dahl	Centennial
	Craig Hiller	Redwood Falls
	Doug Woog	South St. Paul
2013	Gabriele Anderson	Perham
	Mark Scharenbroich	St. Cloud Tech
	Jeff Swenson	Minneapolis South
2014	Joe Dziedzic	Minneapolis Edison
2015	Chris Meidt	Minneota
	Dennis Ryan	St. Paul Highland Park
2016	Cindy Haugejorde	New London-Spicer
	Denise "Olsen" Holm	Duluth East
	Bob Karn	St. Cloud Cathedral
	Phil Vercota	Duluth East
2017	Henry Boucha	Warroad
	Lindsay Whalen	Hutchinson
2018	Kelly Kirwin	Grand Rapids
	Shjon Podein	Rochester John Marshall
2019	Magdalyn Mae Ewen	St. Francis
	Karl Erickson	Rochester Century
2020	Matt Birk	Cretin-Derham Hall
	CJ Ham	Duluth Denfeld



# **OFFERING MULTIPLE PRODUCTS**

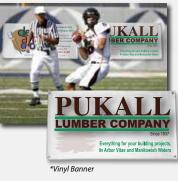
#### **HOW WILL THIS PROGRAM BENEFIT YOU?**

- ▶ **Free Money** You receive a rebate off the gross sales.
- ▶ Free Product All products are 100% free to the school.
- ▶ Free Service Sales, graphics, printing, and shipping is all done at NO COST to you.

### **POSTERS & POCKETS**



### **BANNERS**



### T-SHIRTS & HANG TAGS



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