



Lorie Brunet - I am a full time Real Estate agent/Property Manager managing over 60 properties throughout the metro area. Brandon & I moved to the STMA district 17 years ago to raise our family. We have 3 boys. Cameron just started his 1st year @ the U of MN. Collin is a Junior and Connor is in 7th grade. We have had someone in the STMA baseball program for the past 15 years. The younger 2 have been involved in various levels of traveling both AAA & AA for the past 7 years. Between coaching and Game Changer we are always heavily involved every year. It has been fun meeting so many people and becoming more involved in the community and I would like the opportunity to help out more before my kids are done with the program.



Colby Cartney - From a very young age baseball has always been a part of my life. From little league, to college ball and had it not been for a shoulder injury I would have played at an even higher level. That is why I feel baseball teaches a multitude of skills both physically and emotionally. With these skills, children grow up to love the game but more importantly, they grow to appreciate hard work, dedication, and commitment. They learn as a player how to apply it to the life they live. As a board member, I will always put the players first while focusing on developmental skills that will elevate them to the next level. I have 2 boys currently in the program and have seen both aspects of house ball and traveling ball. I have enjoyed coaching from coach pitch to little league and at the high school level helping with development and their love for the game. I look forward to the chance to be on the board to help further the players' development and to help this program grow through the decisions being made by the board.



Al Hlinsky - Hello. My name is Al Hlinsky and I am asking for your vote for STMA Youth Baseball Board. I have lived in Albertville since 1998 and my son Zack and I have been part of the STMA Youth Baseball since 2009 when Zack started playing as a 5-year-old. In the past 10 seasons I have volunteered as either head or an assistant coach. My focus has always been to develop the team as a whole and build off of the positives. I believe that all coaches, no matter the age or level, need to coach with positivity and respect. In the past 10 seasons I have seen the numbers of players decline at the in-house level starting with Minors and Majors, going upward through the system and this is very concerning. We need to be recruiting more and do better with developing young players. These players are our greatest assets and the future of the program. As an association we need to be more in the public's eye. There are a lot of other sports competing for participants. Baseball needs to be the NUMBER 1 sport for summer. My goal, if elected, is to see that we build and maintain a strong in-house program that in turn will feed our successful travel program. I have a great love for the game of baseball and would like the opportunity to serve on the board and give back to the community and association.



Glenn Miller - I would like to be considered for a position on the board because I feel I might bring a different perspective to our organization. I have coached at all levels over various times in my life. I have also done this in different organization in Illinois and Rhode Island as well as at STMA. I believe strongly in teaching the fundamentals of the game as well as teaching players the importance playing competitively. I believe that there are many kids in the recreational leagues that want to play a more competitive brand of baseball and our current system does not lend itself well to this. We need a voice for all levels and not just for travel baseball.



Josh Opiola - My name is Josh Opiola and I am very interested in joining the STMA Youth Baseball Board. My interest stems from my lifelong commitment and love for our sport. I played competitive baseball as a catcher through my Junior year in High School (injury.) After my playing days were over, I started coaching in college. I was the assistant coach for the Cooper High School Legion team for 4 years. My role was to work with catchers, infielders, and coached first base. Fast forward a few years. Since my son (Quinn) was five, I have been either head or assistant coach for his team. My coaching style is quite simple. I do my very best to keep it a light as possible for the age I am coaching. My goal is to have the kids come back next year (along with improving.) As the former President of STMAYHA, I have seen attrition of kids quitting sports for the past six years. We as a board need to do our very best to keep all of our kids active and interested in our game. All the while, encouraging them to try other sports.

In closing, as a former youth association board member and president, I believe my experience in growing sports and board membership would be a tremendous asset to your already remarkable board.



Danny Salas - I've been a resident of St. Michael for 12 years and currently have a son participating in the STMA Youth Baseball program. I also have two daughters who are both very active in STMA sports. I began coaching youth sports 10 years ago with my daughters playing Fast Pitch softball through their 12U season. I continued to coach at the club level, most recently as the Head Coach of the Minnesota Xtreme and was on the STMA Fast Pitch board for 6 years, 3 years In- House Director and Vice President the last three years.

This summer, I was the head coach of the 11AA traveling baseball team. My coaching philosophy was to allow players to learn multiple positions and rotate players every inning playing both outfield and infield. This philosophy continued in regular season and State Tournaments. The team took first place in all 3 regular season tournaments. During the 2018 season 9 out of 11 players had the opportunity to pitch. I focus on fundamentals in practice, but make sure the players understand the whys. This approach allows the kids to have fun and helps them understand that every position is important.

I enjoy coaching youth sports and have a passion for baseball. My future goals are becoming more active in the STMA Youth Baseball program and using my past board and coaching experiences to add value to the young athletes as well as the STMA Baseball board.



Ron Wetzel - Ron and his Wife Sara are new residents of St. Michael, having moved from Champlin in 2016. They both look forward to getting involved in the community, identifying St. Michael as the perfect area to raise their two boys, Jack (7) and Cal (4). Ron is a family man who enjoys camping on the weekends with Sara and the boys. When he's not camping, he is watching, playing or coaching a variety of athletics. Notably, Ron coached the St. Michael Minor League Yankees and volunteered time as the Sandy Koufax Coordinator.

Ron would be honored to dedicate his time and experience to support the local baseball program for his children and the residents of St. Michael.