

SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



MERIT & SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

June 2021

**Please join us to Congratulate
Lyle McKellar
on his Retirement!**



**Executive Director 2015 - 2021
Assistant Executive Director 2008 - 2015**

2021 MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS



Greg Mamer
Battle West – McLurg High School



Brad Cameron
East Central – Sturgis Composite School



Cory Schmaltz
North East – Carrot River High School



Blake Johnson
South East – Weyburn Comprehensive School



Vicki Moore
West Central – Sun West School Division

2021 SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Service awards are presented to the following individuals. Each award is inscribed as follows:

IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR SERVICE TO STUDENT ATHLETES AND FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE PHILOSOPHY AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

TOM HAWBOLDT – Battle West

John Paul II Collegiate/Light of Christ School Division

- Tom is married to his wife, Dolly; they made the Battlefords their home and have been proud owners of, as well as fostering, many rescue dogs.
- Tom is an avid cyclist and has made many rides in support of causes such as MS and cancer research.
- Tom has been involved in athletics during his 32 year career in education, as a coach, and an administrator, representing Light of Christ Catholic School Division.
- Over the years, Tom coached many different sports including basketball, badminton, football, and soccer, leading to numerous medals and a Sportsmanship award.
- Tom is also very involved on a community level, as a member of the Saskatchewan Winter Games host committee, a part of the Cross Country Ski Club, and a volunteer for the Saskatchewan Cycling Association.
- Battle West colleague Vic Stynsky said this: "Tom's commitment, dedication, and sport knowledge has guided his teams to success. His positive, caring, and fun-loving personality has allowed our student-athletes to excel on and off the court."



MARK ANDERSON – CENTRAL VALLEY

Hanley Composite School

- Mark is married to his wife, Juanita, who is a teacher at South Corman Park School. Mark and Juanita have two children, daughter Erin and son Josh, who have also achieved teaching degrees.
- Mark has been totally committed to coaching throughout his teaching career with service to athletes, school, and community for more than 30 years.
- For more than 30 seasons, Mark has been the head coach of the Hanley football program.
- Mark has been a leader in fundraising for various aspects, components, and facilities for the football program in Hanley.
- Mark is also heavily involved as a person of faith with his church in the community of Dundurn and finds ways to offer thoughtful advice through his service to his church.
- Longtime colleague Carey Block had this to say: "The one word that comes to mind when I think of Mark Anderson is dedication. The amount of dedication to the sport of football on-and-off the field will be unmatched. On the field, he spent endless hours coaching the team, and off the field, he was always fundraising, working to improve the football field, and building a player clubhouse to be proud of. He even hosted the players at his home after every home game to provide a safe environment for them to celebrate the game and enjoy each other's company."



JASON PAYNE – EAST CENTRAL

Yorkton Regional High School

- Jason grew up engaged in high school athletics in Windsor, Nova Scotia; he played soccer, basketball, and rugby.
- Jason started coaching while attending Mount Allison University and hasn't stopped since.
- In 2000, Jason completed his B.Ed. at UBC and moved with his young family to Yorkton in 2002 where he coaches football, soccer, and basketball.
- Within the community, Jason has been actively involved in grassroots basketball helping to grow the sport in Yorkton and area.
- Mike Haczewicz, Principal at Yorkton Regional, had this to say: "Jason Payne is a coach that has set out to establish a culture of developing young men within his team more so than just simply ticking off more wins than losses; developing young men of character that go on to achieve great things has always been job one with Coach Payne. As a parent, I am forever grateful that my son had the privilege to play for Coach Payne. Jason is well deserving of this award. Congratulations Coach!"



SHAUN GARDINER – HORIZON CENTRAL

Humboldt Collegiate Institute

- Shaun is currently the vice-principal at Humboldt Collegiate Institute. His wife, Karla, is also a teacher at HCI. They have two sons, Reid and Eric, who have gone on to have successful hockey careers.
- Shaun's teaching career has spanned nearly 30 years.
- At HCI, Shaun is responsible for administering all operational aspects of senior, junior varsity, and junior athletics. He has also coached football, track & field, badminton, and basketball.
- In the community, Shaun has coached minor hockey, minor baseball, and is also a certified fitness trainer where he has helped to train many elite athletes who have gone on to compete at the olympic, international, national, and provincial levels.
- Kelly Bates, former professional CFL football all-star, NCAA football head coach, CFL assistant coach, co-founder of the Kelly Bates football camp had this to say: "Shaun's commitment to professionalism and the well-being of those around him make him the exceptional person he is. I feel fortunate and humbled to call him a mentor and friend."



TIM STROM – NORTH CENTRAL

Carlton Comprehensive Public High School

- Tim Stom has been involved in high school sport as a coach, official, event planner, volunteer, and North Central District executive member throughout his teaching career. Tim has committed his time and energy providing athletic opportunities to students at both W.P. Sandin Public High School and Carlton Comprehensive Public High School.
- Tim is married to his wife, Carolyn, and they have two daughters, Annika and Linnea.
- In the community, Tim enjoys volunteering his time to coach his daughters activities.
- Lindsay Strachan states: "I have had the pleasure to work and coach alongside Tim during our time together at Carlton Comprehensive Public High School. He has consistently demonstrated his commitment to providing high-quality extracurricular opportunities for student-athletes. His technical knowledge, communication, organizational skills, and drive to better himself as a coach, have provided the foundation for the positive engagement and growth of the athletes under his supervision."



DAVE CHRISTIANSEN – NORTH EAST

L.P. Miller High School

- Dave began teaching at L.P. Miller in the fall of 1989 on a temporary contract and began working full time, permanent in 1993.
- Dave's favourite sport is golf and also enjoys playing recreation hockey.
- From 1989-1993, Dave refereed and coached. In 1993, he took on the senior boys' volleyball program full-time.
- Dave has hosted volleyball officials clinics over the years, mentoring officials, and continues to do so.
- Dave was involved with the 1998 Winter Games, hosted by Nipawin, planning and preparing L.P. Miller as it became "The Olympic Village" for one week.
- Dave's colleague had this to say: "He practiced 4 times a week to accommodate all other activities of the athletes. Dave would say; 'Practice how you are going to play in a game.' Practices were upbeat, full of variety, and very enjoyable. Athletes did not like to miss Dave's practices."



KAREN JOHNSTONE – NORTH WEST

Pierceland Central School

- Karen has coached volleyball, golf, cross-country, and badminton over the years and has consistently coached track & field.
- Karen has officiated basketball, volleyball, and track & field.
- For many years, Karen has represented Pierceland Central School at NWHSAA meetings. She was a member of the North West team that planned the AGM in 2019.
- In the community, Karen has been a minor fastball coach. She is also an active church member with various committee roles.
- Karen has been the organizer and emcee of the community Remembrance Day ceremony for the past 25 years.
- Karen is a devoted auntie and lover of animals. She also has a 3rd degree black belt in taekwondo.
- Merit Award recipient, Dave Speirs, said: "Karen reflects all of the qualities we've come to respect through 'Athletics in Education'. Her service within the North West District has been exemplary".



TREVOR VIERGUTZ – QU'APPELLE VALEY

Indian Head High School

- Trevor has served as QVDA President since 2013 and was a member of the executive council before taking on the role of President.
- Trevor joined the coaching ranks at IHHS during his first-year teaching in 2006. He coached senior boys volleyball from 2006-2012. After the boys program disbanded due to the start of football, he transitioned to junior girls volleyball, which he continues to coach to this day.
- Over the years, he has also coached track & field, badminton, curling, and girls basketball.
- Trevor has a passion for all sports, but loves hockey. As a goalie, he can be frequently found on the ice helping various minor hockey goalies in Indian Head with one-on-one instruction.
- Trevor lives in Indian Head with his son, Leo. During the winter, Trevor loves to play hockey and during the nicer months, you can find him on the golf course, playing ball, or camping.
- Colleague Lorie Kaczmar had this to say: "Trevor works tirelessly for the QVDA organization; the time and commitment to this organization is second-to-none. Throughout his career, he has coached, officiated, and done anything to help students be involved and successful. His dedication to mentoring, coaching, and athletics is commendable."



BLAINE PEARCE – REGINA

Martin Collegiate

- Blaine started coaching at FW Johnson where he coached football and basketball.
- Blaine coached multiple sports for many seasons and continued that trend as he moved to Thom Collegiate and then Martin Collegiate.
- Blaine received the football program at Martin. In the COVID year, Blaine ran a fall camp so graduating players would have an opportunity to showcase their abilities and, at the same time, gave the younger players a football experience.
- Bill Wright had this to say about Blaine: "Blaine's contribution to student-athletes will be missed and very hard to replace. The combination of being a physics teacher and two sport coach will be a challenge for the administration to fill upon his retirement. It is an understatement, the contributions as outlined above, but Blaine Pearce is a very much deserving recipient of any acknowledgement."



JANET CHRIST - SASKATOON

Walter Murray Collegiate

- Janet has coached cross-country every year she has taught, as well as track & field and badminton most years.
- Janet's cross-country teams have won a city championship 14 out of 15 years and 3 provincial championships.
- She is the head of the math club and organizes all provincial and national math competition exams.
- In the community, Janet organizes a community cross-country meet for kids from across the city to compete in and run.
- Janet attended the U of S where she competed on the cross-country and track & field teams. While attending the U of S she also met her husband, Louis.
- Ali Fairbrother had this to say: "Janet's unmatched dedication and devotion of time and passion for teaching and coaching has changed the lives of thousands of students and athletes, empowering many to reach their full potential in school, sport, and life."
- Colleague, Jill Harbidge said: "Janet is an inspirational colleague as she holds herself to the highest standard of excellence in all areas of her life. She is the epitome of what it means to lead by example. Her dedication to coaching has encircled Marauder Athletics and left a legacy for future success."



JEFF KITTS – SOUTH CENTRAL
Riverview Collegiate

- Jeff is married to his wife, Jana, and they have been blessed with their daughter, Claire, who keeps them as busy as ever.
- Jeff spent the first year of his teaching career in Big River before moving back home to Moose Jaw in August 2010 to assume his current teaching position at Riverview Collegiate.
- For the last two years, Jeff has served as the SHSAA president, and had previously served the role of section rep for four years.
- Jeff has dedicated his teaching life to the athletic interests of students at the school level, city level, district level, and provincial level. He is a well-rounded educator who has a firm understanding of what it takes to make high school sport work on a large-scale level. It is no surprise that he has earned the new career path of Assistant Executive Director of the SHSAA.
- Students come first for Jeff and this is evident in the leadership he has provided in running and organizing many district, regional, and provincial championships. He has also stepped up to officiate basketball in his spare time.
- In the community, Jeff is often officiating lacrosse games across the province.
- Mitch Singleton, South Central President had this to say: “Jeff Kitts has been a leader in every aspect of educational athletics across Saskatchewan. Athletic programs at Riverview Collegiate, MJHSAA, SCDA, and the SHSAA are better because of Jeff’s leadership over the last decade of service. Jeff’s extensive knowledge of high school athletics is diverse and well-rounded. The SCDA is proud to have had Jeff on the executive for a lengthy period of time and we are excited for his upcoming role at the SHSAA office. Jeff Kitts is highly deserving of the SHSAA service award.”



TYSON KRAUSE – SOUTH WEST
Maple Creek Comprehensive High School

- Tyson is married to his wife, Sarah. He loves spending his free time at his family cabin at Duncairn Dam where he enjoys boating, fishing, and spending time with family.
- Tyson has been teaching for 12 years at Maple Creek Comprehensive with the last two as vice principal. He has been the athletic director for all 12 years.
- Over the years, Tyson has been a commissioner for conference basketball and site coordinator for provincial volleyball, golf, football, badminton, basketball, and track & field.
- Tyson has also officiated basketball for 5 years and football for 12 years.
- In the community, Tyson has served 8 years on the Maple Creek Golf Course executive, serving as president for the last 4 years. He organizes the travel club at Maple Creek Composite where he’s led students to Italy, London, and Paris and is planning to take students on a postponed trip to Greece in the spring of 2022.
- MCCHS Principal, John Campbell, had this to say: “Tyson is very involved in all of our activities and is always willing to lend a hand regardless of the activity or time it may take. He is the ultimate team player, living a life that reflects the words of Les Brown...Tyson honors his commitments with integrity.”



RYAN NICHOLS – SOUTH EAST
Carnduff Educational Complex

- Ryan received his Bachelor of Education Degree from Valley City State University, North Dakota and later attended Bemidji State University, Minnesota to receive his Master of Education.
- Ryan started teaching at Buffalo River Dene School. As with most small schools, he was given the role of athletic director along with coaching wrestling. In 2000, Ryan became VP at Gull Lake School and took on the role of athletic director. He was the head coach for the 9-side football team, senior basketball team, and track & field.
- In 2004, Ryan moved to Carnduff to become the Principal of Carnduff Educational Complex.
- Along with coaching volleyball teams, Ryan officiated basketball and volleyball playoffs ranging from conference right through to provincial volleyball when held in the South East.
- Ryan has been an executive member of South East District since his move to Carnduff. He has taken on various roles which include secretary, president, past-president, and now serves as an administrative representative.
- Fred Jerred, Athletic Commissioner for SE said this: “Ryan is one who will assist you in any capacity. He has gone full circle; he has coached, officiated, and administered high school sport. His support and leadership is greatly appreciated.”



SHANNON STEPHENSON – WEST CENTRAL
Outlook High School

- Shannon has been an athletic director and West Central association executive from 2014 to present.
- From 2017-2019, Shannon served on the SHSAA Executive as Women’s Representative.
- Shannon has coached cross country for many years; she ran miles and miles with students in conditions both fair and foul.
- Shannon has also coached track & field, basketball, and curling over the years.
- In the community, Shannon volunteers for Meals on Wheels. She has also been involved with Minor Softball from 2010-2013 and hockey from 2013-2019.
- Shannon also offers horseback riding lessons and has people from Autism Services come out for horse therapy experiences.
- Colleagues of Shannon had this to say: “Shannon is well known in the school and community as someone who goes above-and-beyond for every person she meets. She is always the first person to volunteer and she always ensures everyone is included. Shannon pours her heart and soul into everything she does. So many people are so lucky to have her in their lives.”

