



## Steve Sosnowski High School

Steve Sosnowski's nearly 40-year career in education and athletics has left an indelible mark on students, coaches, and school communities across Idaho and beyond. Known for his integrity, compassion, and servant leadership, Steve has dedicated his life to creating positive, meaningful experiences through high school athletics and activities.

A 1976 graduate of Salinas High School in California, Steve began his academic journey at UCLA before transferring to Boise State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1982. He later completed a master's degree at Idaho State University in 1986, all while actively coaching and mentoring young athletes.

Steve's professional path has taken him from Idaho to California and back again, beginning at Firth High School in 1982. Over the next four decades, he would serve in a variety of roles—teacher, head coach, assistant coach, athletic director, and college adjunct instructor—at institutions including Idaho State University, Pacific Grove High School, Florin High School, Meridian High School, and ultimately, Capital High School in Boise. For 21 years at Capital, Steve was the heart of the school's athletics and activities programs, leading with vision, care, and a tireless work ethic.

While at Capital, Steve oversaw a wide range of programs and teams, from football and wrestling to cheerleading and basketball. He also played a critical role in developing academic enhancement initiatives, improving athletic facilities, and revitalizing the school's Hall of Fame—always with a focus on enriching student experiences. His leadership extended far beyond campus, as he served as tournament director or assistant for countless state and district events in nearly every sport and activity, from football playoffs to tennis, track, swimming, and cheer and dance competitions.

A strong believer in the power of education and community involvement, Steve has also served as an adjunct instructor at Boise State University and worked with USA Football as a certification trainer. He has been an active member of numerous professional organizations at the state and national levels, including the Idaho Athletic Administrators Association, the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, and the American Football Coaches Association.

Steve's impact has been recognized through several honors, though he is quick to credit others for any accolades. Among them are the IAHPERD Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award (1997), the Allen Griffin Award for Excellence in Teaching (1989), and multiple Southern Idaho Conference Athletic Director of the Year awards. He was inducted into the Idaho Athletic Administrators Association Hall of Fame in 2023 and the Capital High School Hall of Fame in 2024.

For Steve, success has never been measured by wins and losses, but by the relationships built and lives touched. He is most proud of the lifelong connections he's formed with students, coaches, parents, and community members—many of whom still reach out to thank him for the support and mentorship he provided. His philosophy has always been rooted in developing people: "Set the standard high, lead with honesty and humility, and always strive to help others become the best version of themselves."