

## **Michael J. Ferrara**



Michael graduated from Mynderse Academy in 1975 and then continued his post secondary education at the University of Pittsburgh where he graduated with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Education in 1979. He also holds a Masters of Reading Education from the State University of New York at Cortland and a Masters of Education and Certificate of Advance Study in Education Administration from the State University of New York at Brockport.

Michael began his coaching career at Mynderse Academy in 1979 as the Freshman Football Coach. He continued to coach football as the Assistant Varsity Football Coach until 1987. For many years he coached four sports at Mynderse that included football, girls' and boys' basketball and baseball.

In 1981, Michael was appointed the Varsity Girls Basketball coach after spending one year as the Junior Varsity coach. He began the development of the program at this time by taking over both the Junior Varsity and Varsity teams for the next 5 years.

He compiled an overall record of 293-120 and won Section V Championships in 1985, 1986, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994. His teams were Section V runner-ups in 1987, 1995, and 1996. The 1986, 1992, 1993, and 1994 teams were the New York State Public School Athletic Association Western Regional State Champions and the 1994 team was a New York State Public School Athletic Association Finalist.

Michael was selected as the Finger-Lakes Basketball Coach of the Year in 1986, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994. He was also selected as the All Greater Rochester Coach of the Year in 1994. His teams led the Finger Lakes League in scoring defense for 15 consecutive years.

Besides his coaching responsibilities, he was instrumental in the development and promotion of Section V Girls' Basketball. He served on the executive committee for 15 years, helping to bring Girls' Basketball to new levels of competition, achievement, and recognition. His 1991 team was the first Section V Girls' Basketball team to win a Sectional Championship in the "Big House". (Rochester War Memorial). He also served as the Finger Lakes League President for 15 years, helping to make the Finger Lakes League one of the strongest in all of Section V.

Michael was instrumental in the development of the "Above the Rim Club" which still exists today to help support and promote all of Blue Devils Basketball. He instituted summer basketball camps and leagues to promote the development of the basketball program and its athletes.

Michael has been a respected member of the education community as a teacher at Mynderse Academy and Geneva High School from 1980 to 1998 and then as a Secondary Administrator at Waterloo Central School District starting in 1998. He is currently the Principal at Waterloo Middle School.