

CHASKA HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME



RUSS SCHUMACHER, '97
Outstanding Arts & Activities

While at Chaska High School Russ was a letter-winner in a wide range of activities, including pit orchestra, band, baseball, and academic teams. He was also a pitcher and first baseman on the CHS 1997 state tournament baseball team. Russ was honored with the John Philip Sousa Band award. After high school, he attended Valparaiso University, where he played in the concert band and was active in student government and served as student body president. Russ achieved success on the quiz show Jeopardy!, winning four games in 2003, and going on to win the Tournament of Champions in 2004. Russ also reached the semifinals of the show's "Battle of the Decades" tournament in 2014. After his Jeopardy! wins, he established a scholarship for an outstanding member of the CHS academic teams each year. Russ earned a Ph.D. in atmospheric science from Colorado State University, where he is now a professor and serves as the Colorado State Climatologist.

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JIM "JJ" WALETSKI
Outstanding Coach & Advisor

Jim "JJ" Waleski is a 1955 graduate from Royalton High School. He spent two years in the Army and earned two teaching degrees from St. Cloud State College and University of Kansas. His teaching career started in Garden City and Pine Island, MN. JJ came to Chaska High School in 1965 and retired in 1995. He taught History and Anthropology and was the Student Council Advisor. Student Council and Advisors were the managers of the concession stand, plus many other activities. He was also the first Girls Softball Coach at CHS. For twenty years JJ did not miss many home athletic events. JJ is married to wife Rita for sixty one years. They have two sons, Eric and Greg and two grandchildren, Alex and Emily. All are graduates of CHS. JJ felt Chaska High School was a great place to spend his career. He enjoyed his job until the day he retired and is proud of the time spent at CHS.

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DICK & KAYE NORRISH
Outstanding Contributor

Longtime residents of Chaska, Kaye and Dick Norrish have been outstanding contributors to Chaska High School and community. They also worked for Eastern Carver County Schools for a combined total of 55 years. For over ten years, they led the Chaska Booster club, and could be found in the Hawk Shop. They sold tickets and concessions and greeted everyone that walked through the door. They were heavily involved in the creation of the Victoria Lions Cross Country Invitational and generously volunteered over 35 years. With a smile on their face, Dick and Kaye volunteered at football games, gymnastics meets, track and field meets, school dances, school field trips, and organizing fundraisers. Wherever they were needed, they lent a helping hand, never missing an opportunity to support the school community. Their children Chris '87, Rick '88, and Paul '90, proudly graduated from Chaska High School.

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LOGAN STROMAN, '06
Outstanding Athlete

Logan was a standout track & field athlete at Chaska High School and a two-year starting wide receiver on the football team. He was all-state in the 400-meter dash (3rd in 2005 and 4th in 2006) and high jump (7th in 2005). As a three-time Lake Conference champion and Section champion, he held school records in the 400 (48.98), 4x400 and 4x800. Stroman was an All-American at the University of Minnesota, winning four Big Ten team titles and a bronze medal as part of its indoor distance medley relay at the NCAA Championships. Stroman completed a kinesiology/coaching bachelors, and a Master of Education from Minnesota. He began coaching as an assistant T&F coach at Chaska in 2011-2013, then as an assistant XC/T&F coach at Lebanon Valley College (PA). Stroman became the head women's XC/T&F coach at Widener University (Pa.) in 2016, leading the Pride to numerous school records, conference individual and team titles, All-American performances, and earned Conference and Regional Coach of the Year accolades.

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ALLIE (OELKE) DAWSON, '07
Outstanding Athlete

Allie was a four-time letter winner in volleyball and finished her career with 1,057 kills at Chaska High School. The team had a combined 118-10 record, while winning State two years during Allie's career. She was named first team All-State and All-State Volleyball Academic Team both junior and senior year. In club volleyball, Allie was a four-time AAU All-American. Upon graduation, she played Division 1 volleyball for Creighton University where she was the second player to accumulate both 1,000 kills and 1,000 digs in her career (1,126 kills and 1,382 digs). At Creighton, she was named 2007 Missouri Valley Freshman of the year, as well as a member of the All-Freshman Team and Missouri Valley Scholar Athlete First team three years. In 2011, she graduated with her BA in Elementary Education and in 2014, she graduated with her MA in Special Education.

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