



MASSACHUSETTS INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



MIAA 2021 Distinguished Service Award Recipients

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2021 MIAA Distinguished Service Award Recipients. For 37 years the MIAA has honored individuals who have made impressive contributions over the years, and have an outstanding record of service to the Association. This year **Wes Paul**, Principal, Oliver Ames High School; **Patty Provost**, Athletic Director, Notre Dame Academy, Worcester; and **Jim O'Leary**, Assistant to the Principal, Saint John's Prep are recipients of the 2021 **Distinguished Service Award**. Additionally, **Daniel Buron**, Athletic Director, Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, is the recipient of the MIAA Distinguished Service Award named after **John E. Young**. This award is reserved for Athletic Directors who reflect extraordinary high personal values and professional standards.

MIAA Distinguish Award Recipients

Wesley H. Paul

Wesley (Wes) Paul, Principal at Oliver Ames High School since 1999 and former Assistant Principal at Stoughton High School, has been an active member of both Associations. Since 2012, Wes has served on the MIAA Board of Directors and the District Athletic Committee. Additionally, he was a member of the Gymnastics, Lacrosse and Softball Committees. A member of the Massachusetts School Administrators' Association (MSAA) Board of Directors and many MSAA committees including National Honor Society, Student Council, and Cheerleading, Wes always provided his thoughtful leadership.



"Wes fosters an environment at Oliver Ames High School that challenges all of our student-athletes to set an example of sportsmanship, leadership and community service for others to follow," stated Oliver Ames Athletic Director, Bill Matthews. He continued, "It is rare to find the combination of outstanding leadership

qualities Wes has exhibited throughout his tenure here at Oliver Ames.”



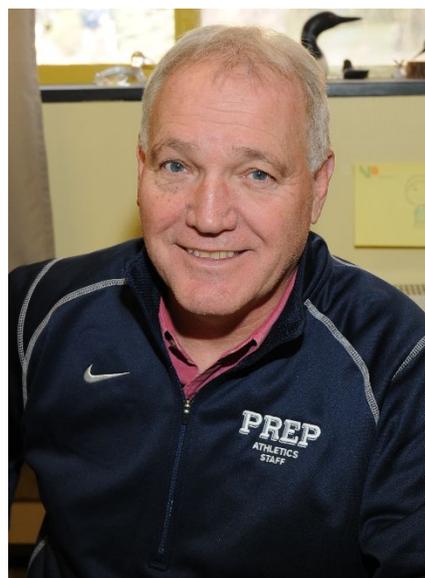
Patty Provost

Culminating an astonishing 45 years of service to Notre Dame Academy (NDA) – Worcester, Patty Provost will retire at the end of the 2020-21 school year. Patty began her career at NDA in 1974 as a Physical Education teacher, a position she continues to hold today. In 1976, she was named Athletic Director while simultaneously coaching Softball and Basketball for a period of time. She has been at the helm of NDA Field Hockey since 1976, earning State, District, and League Championships, in addition to her 600th victory this year.

A member of the MIAA Field Hockey Committee and a previous member of the Tennis Committee, Patty was inducted into the Halls of Fame at Wachusett Regional High School, Worcester State College and Notre Dame Academy. In 2015, she received the distinguished recognition of being named to the National Field Hockey Hall of Fame. “Coach Provost taught us all to be leaders,” stated Caitlyn Germain, Co-Athletic Director and former student- athlete at NDA, “her ability to infuse passion and inspiration and fire into every one of her players was truly remarkable.” She continued, “Patty enabled all of us to try and be our best person. I appreciate the energy and mindset she brought to the school and to each of us!”

Jim O’Leary

Jim O’Leary has been a staple in the MIAA for over 30 years serving in the capacity of coach, Athletic Director, committee member, chairman, leader and mentor. He has serviced the St. John’s Prep community for the past 37 years as a Physical Education Teacher, Football Coach, Assistant Athletic Director and Athletic Director. An instrumental facilitator of the newly adopted statewide tournament, Jim has served on the District H Committee, Tournament Management (TMC), Ski and Football Committees, acting as chair for TMC and Ski, Vice Chair of Football and Chairman of the joint TMC Football Playoff Committee. Jim’s devotion to high school athletics has been recognized by the Massachusetts



Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association (MSSADA), Agganis Foundation, and Boston Shriners Hospital. Jim's service to his community was acknowledged by the Salem News and North Shore Hospice and he was honored for his work with Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC). Jared Shannon, Athletic Director at Wahconah Regional High School stated, "Jim genuinely wants what is best for everyone in the state, east to west and north to south." Johanna Dicarlo, Westborough High School Athletic Director added, "Jim combines a respect for the past and traditions with a willingness to think dynamically. The MIAA Statewide tournament structure would not have come to fruition without Jim's guidance."



**John E. Young Award Recipient
Daniel Buron**

Daniel Buron, Athletic Director at Bridgewater-Raynham High School for the past 16 years, is the recipient of the 2021 John E. Young Award. Dan joined the staff at Bridgewater-Raynham as a teacher and coach in 1992 before moving to the Athletic Directors position in 1992. His early years in education were spent at Bishop Feehan and Bourne High

Schools as a teacher and coach. An active member of the MIAA, Dan provided 14 years of service to the Tournament Management, Ice Hockey and Gymnastics Committees. Representing District D. Dan received the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association (MSSADA) Presidents Award of Merit and the Athletic Director of the Year. A highly regarded Basketball Official for the past 36 years, Dan coached Baseball and Football at Bridgewater-Raynham for 18 years and is a member of the MA High School Football Coaches Association (MHSFCA). Dan was honored with his induction into the MHSFCA in 2020, and just recently received the MA Football Coach of the Year from the Gridiron Club of Greater Boston. Richard Pearson, MIAA Associate Director noted, "I know that Dan is very proud of his time as a coach and a faculty member at Bridgewater-Raynham. He has dedicated many years to the service of students and is appreciated for his genuine interest in using athletics for their educational success."

The MIAA extends its warmest congratulations to the recipients of these distinguished awards and thanks each for their service.

EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS



MIAA | 33 Forge Pkwy | Franklin, MA 02038 | 508-541-7997

