



## **Barry Bokn**

The OADA welcomes Barry Bokn as a distinguished Athletic Director and a 2019 Inductee into the OADA Hall of Fame.

Barry Bokn devoted 32 years of service as an educator in the Bethel School District. After graduating from Willamette High School as a 3-sport athlete in 1979, Barry played basketball at Northwest Christian University as well as Southwestern Community College before completing his Business Education teaching degree at Oregon State University in 1984.

Barry eagerly began his career in education when he was hired to teach and coach three sports at his alma mater, 'Wolverine Nation'. He still has a framed copy of his first month's paycheck, \$1011.00, and thinking 'Wow-this is why I went to college...'

Barry's professional life took another big turn in 1989 when he was hired as the Willamette High School Athletic Director. Despite his youth and inexperience, he was proud to be offered an opportunity he had always wanted. Although he was still coaching (as the Varsity Boys Head Basketball coach) and teaching part-time, he was excited to take on the adventure of running the Athletic Department. Barry served as Athletic Director until he retired in 2016.

Barry's association with the OADA Leadership Team started with two close Midwestern League friends who convinced him that it would be a great opportunity for 'professional growth'. Bill Bowers and Boyd Bjorkquist recruited him and of this he says: "I owe both of these great friends a big thank you because, in all truthfulness, the years I spent with that OADA Family were some of the highlights of my professional career. Networking with amazing ADs in all classifications was just plain fun and enjoyable, but to work with these dedicated people to assist, mentor and encourage all athletic directors in Oregon was simply priceless".

Barry served on the OADA board for 10 years including time on OSAA Executive Board. He received many honors including NIAAA State Award of Merit, OADA AD of the Year, Bill Bowers Award of Excellence, Jim Rotramel Lifetime Service Award and the OACA Dave Johnson Contributor Award.

Barry married his best friend and high school sweetheart, Shawn, in 1982. They have two children, Cody & Holly and three grandkids.

Barry is a credit to our association. It is with great pleasure that we have the opportunity to induct him into our Hall of Fame. Barry, we thank you for your service to the athletes, schools, communities and the State of Oregon. You have made our profession proud.