



Nicholas P. Zacchilli

Class of 1969 - Coach and Athletic Director

Nick Zacchilli's unmatched dedication and service to the Milford Schools and Milford High School Athletics in particular spanned nearly four decades as a teacher, coach and Director of Athletics. During his career, he taught Physical Education at every level in the system, as well as teaching Science for 15 years at MHS. He also served three years as Director of Physical Education before assuming his duties as Athletic Director in 1982.

Nick began his Milford coaching career as a volunteer in both football and wrestling while still a student at the UMass Amherst. He was appointed to his first official position as JV Wrestling Coach while a junior at UMass in 1971. Upon graduation in 1973, he began his teaching career in Physical Education and also began coaching football at the freshmen level. Nick served two stints as a varsity assistant with the football program, working with both the offensive and defensive lines. During his

tenure, the football teams won numerous league championships. He was on the staff of four Super Bowl squads, with the 1975 and 2006 teams both being crowned champions.

It was with the wrestling program, however, that Nick made his mark as a coach. During his nineteen years as Varsity Wrestling Coach, his teams won nine sectional championships. Milford High School was the dominant team in Massachusetts in the late '70's and early 80's, winning State Championships in 1978, 1981 and 1983, while finishing second in the state in 1977 and 1980. Nick was named Boston Globe Coach of the Year in both 1978 and 1981, and was inducted into the Massachusetts Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame in 1989, and the New England Council Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1993.

Nick assumed the position of Director of Athletics in 1982, and served for 26 years until his retirement in 2008. During his tenure, Boys' Volleyball, Girls' Soccer, Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track, Ice Hockey, Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse and numerous sub-varsity programs were added. Milford High School grew into one of the most respected and comprehensive Division I athletic programs in Central Massachusetts.

In addition to his work at MHS, Nick was active both statewide and nationally in many capacities. He served as a member of the Massachusetts Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Association Executive Board for 18 years and as President during 2004-05. He served on numerous Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association sport committees, serving as Chairman of both the Volleyball and Wrestling Committees until his retirement, and received the MIAA Distinguished Service Award in 2000. He was a member of the National Federation of High Schools Advisory Committee from 2001-05. He was honored as both the MSSADA and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Eastern Region Athletic Director of the Year in 1998.

Congratulations 2009 Inductees

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