

2025 IBCA Administrators of the Year

District 1



Steve Santana, athletic director, LaPorte

Steve Santana is in his third year as athletic director at LaPorte after serving as assistant athletic director at the school the previous 16 years. He is recognized for his support of Indiana high school basketball throughout his tenure in an administrative role.

Santana is a 1990 graduate of LaPorte, where he played baseball and was part of the Slicers' 1990 state championship team as a senior. He matriculated to Ball State, where he earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education in 1994. He later earned a master's degree in education from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2005.

Santana started in education as a teacher at Warsaw High School from 1995-1998, where he also served as an assistant baseball coach. He taught at Lowell High School in 1998-99, then returned to his alma mater in the fall of 1999. At LaPorte, he was an assistant baseball coach from 2000 to 2014 and became the assistant athletic director in 2006.

While a baseball coach, he was on staff when LaPorte won the Class 4A state championship.

He has been active within the Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. For the IIAAA, he served on a strategic planning committee in 2014, was a junior director from 2015-17, was a District 1 director from 2017-19 and was a Section 1 director in 2019-20. He also was on an IIAAA-IHSAA Advisory Committee from 2016-19, and he has been the IIAAA District 1 membership chairman since 2022.

Santana and his wife, Missy, are parents to two adult daughters – Natalie and Gillian.