

## District 1



**John Steinhilber, athletic director, River Forest**

John Steinhilber is in his first year as athletic director at River Forest Community School Corporation, where he oversees athletics for the high school and middle school. He previously was athletic director at Hebron High School for nine years and served four years on the IHSAA Board of Directors, including one year as president and one year as vice chairman of the executive committee.

He earned Registered Athletic Administrator status from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association in 2016 and brings a positive attitude as well as a strong athletic background to his position at River Forest while dealing with students, teachers, coaches, school administrators and community

members.

A 1986 graduate of Boone Grove High School, Steinhilber competed in basketball, baseball and volleyball. He went on to attend Glen Oaks Community College in Michigan, earning an associate's degree in 1988, and Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, earning a bachelor's degree in health and physical education in 1994. He later earned a master's degree in education in 2005 from Walden University. He played baseball at Glen Oaks and was named second-team all-Michigan Community College Athletic Association in 1987.

Steinhilber has been in education for 28 years and went 213-209 with two sectional trophies in 19 seasons as a varsity boys' basketball coach at three high schools.

He became a varsity boys' basketball coach at Calumet, going 44-88 from 1998-2004 with a sectional title in 2000. He moved to South Central (Union Mills) from 2004-10, his Satellites posting a 76-55 mark with two Porter County Conference Tournament championships. He then served as the Hebron boys' basketball coach from 2010-17, notching a 93-66 ledger with two additional PCC Tournament titles and a sectional crown in 2012. He coached 2010 Indiana All-Star Jake Kitchell, was The Times of Northwest Indiana Coach of the Year in 2012 and served several years on the IBCA on the boys' all-state selection committee, worked several years as an on-court coach at the IBCA/IHSAA Top 100 Underclass Showcase and was an IBCA Clinic speaker in 2012.

Steinhilber also was the Hebron varsity baseball coach from 2011-21, guiding the Hawks to 168 victories, three regional titles and two PCC Tournament championships in 10 seasons. He was the 2012 Gary Post-Tribune Coach of the Year, the 2016 Times of Northwest Indiana Coach of the Year, a three-time Indiana High School Baseball Coaches Association District 1 Coach of the Year (2012, 2016 and 2017) and an Indiana North-South All-Star assistant coach in 2017.

In addition, he served on the IHSBCA's North-South Committee and had two players chosen to the North-South game (Kyle Joyce in 2013, Hunter Ryan in 2017). Also, 2017 graduate Chad Patrick was selected by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the fourth round of the 2021 Major League Baseball Draft and currently is at the AAA level in the Milwaukee Brewers' organization.

Steinhilber also has been a varsity volleyball coach, directing Andean to a regional title in 1998, and a varsity softball coach at Calumet in 2001. In 2023, he was an assistant baseball coach at Boone Grove.

The long-time educator began his career in coaching in 1989 at Boone Grove, serving as an assistant in volleyball (three seasons), boys' basketball (three seasons) and baseball (one season). He followed as an assistant men's basketball and baseball coach at Saint Joseph's College from 1993-95 and an assistant boys' basketball and baseball coach at South Central (Union Mills) in 1995-96. He then moved to Andean, where he was an assistant boys' basketball coach for two years, an assistant volleyball coach for two years and an assistant baseball coach for one year and head volleyball coach in 1998.

Steinhilber and his wife, Melissa, a teacher at Lake Hills Elementary School in Michigan City, have three sons – Malachi, 23; Isaiah, 19; and Xavier, 15.