

*IAAA*  
NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2021

# IAAA News



**IDAHO ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION**

## IAAA NEWS



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# President's Message

**Tol Gropp, CMAA ♦ Timberline High School ♦ IAAA President**

## LEADERSHIP

I've been in self-reflection over the last few weeks. I found myself questioning the decisions of others, those in leadership and questioning my own leadership abilities. I have had to deal with daily changes that have affected what I have grown accustomed to. Others have made decisions that impact our schools, our student-athletes, our coaches, our parents, and our families. Some decisions I have agreed with and others I have not. These circumstances have helped me to realize a couple truths, which I will share later.

I recently finished a book by Jocko Willink and Leif Babin titled "Extreme Ownership". In it, they said,

"As a leader, if you don't understand why decisions are being made, requests denied, or support allocated elsewhere, you must ask those questions up the chain. Then, once understood, you can pass that understanding down to your team. Leaders in any chain of command will not always agree. But at the end of the day, once the debate on a particular course of action is over and the boss has made a decision – even if that decision is one you argued against – you must execute the plan as if it were your own."

What does this mean for me and for us as Athletic Administrators?

1. ***I am in control!*** I control how I handle every decision that is made by others. How I process and relay those decisions to our coaches, players, parents, and teams is up to me. I must first understand why decisions were made so that I can properly communicate with others.
2. ***I will lead up the chain!*** I have the ability to lead up the chain by making sure that I communicate what I would like done and to communicate what our best practices are. Trust is something earned, not given. If I want others to trust me, I must show that I am trustworthy to carry out the plans of my school district, the IHSAA, and the NFHS. As I do this, my actions will carry weight with those who have entrusted me to be the athletic administrator. And that trust will give me more power as I advocate for our student-athletes and coaches.

I am reminded daily that I LOVE being an athletic administrator. I appreciate the dedication and hard work that our coaches put into teaching young athletes. I value the character I see in our student-athletes as they strive to improve daily by being better people and better athletes (PCA model). It is with these people that I put my trust to make our world a better place today and into the future.

**Tol Gropp, CMAA**  
**Timberline High School**

**tol.gropp@boiseschools.org**  
**Certification Chairperson for the State of Idaho & IAAA President**



Visit <https://adrenalinefundraising.com> for more information.





## Executive Director's Message

**Tracy Leinen, CMAA ♦ IAAA Executive Director**

Hello to all the Athletic Directors in the wonderful state of Idaho! Wow, what a year it has been since this time last year. We had to cancel the IAAA State conference last year because of Covid-19 and we are going to do everything in our power to try to make it happen this year. We will not be hosting it in April as we usually do, but have secured a date in July with the hotel if we can get enough of our athletic directors to commit to coming for the conference on July 26-28. We will have Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> as the kickoff with a LTI class and then golf in the afternoon. Tuesday we will start the conference off with a couple of LTI classes and our vendors will set up for a great show and presentation. We will honor two sets of athletic directors of the years and awards for all. We are hoping you will take advantage of this opportunity and join us in the fun. It has been way too long since we have been able to socialize and we are hoping this will bring us all together again to learn and have some fun. Hope to see you all there.

2020 is over so let the fun begin in 2021! We ended the year with the NIAAA conference and it was a success so what better way to start 2021. We are able to have state tournaments and allow kids to go back to school in some one way or the other and we are hoping that by the fall we will be able to go back to the norm if we even remember what that was at this time. My advice to you all is to FINISH STRONG!!!! Wrap up the year and plan to attend the Idaho State Athletic Directors Conference on July 26-28 at the Riverside Hotel in Boise. Let's ...RELAX ...REJUVENATE...and be READY to have a great time.

One last thing is about our membership and we all will have to renew that by the end of April. I will be sending out information to all so that you can send your money in to renew your NIAAA/IAAA fees. Please DO NOT send directly to the NIAAA as they will charge you more money. If you do it directly through the IAAA it will be cheaper to do. Thanks and keep your eyes open for an email from me to renew.

**Tracy Leinen, CMAA**  
**IAAA Executive Director**

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## **2021 IAAA State Conference**

**July 26-28, 2021**

**Riverside Hotel - Boise, ID**

**Please join us for the 30th IAAA Conference, which will be held at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, Idaho.**

**[Click here for 2021 IAAA Conference Information](#)**

**Room reservations: Call (208) 343-1871 and ask for the Idaho Athletic Administrators Association group rate. The last day to make a room reservation at the group rate is Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.**





Here's some good news to start 2021: This year's NFHS/NIAAA radio PSA campaign has been produced and is ready for distribution. We think you'll agree the commercials are among the best ever!

### **Download Your New PSAs**

**CLICK HERE**

Here's more good news: You don't have to stamp any envelopes or put anything in the mail this year.

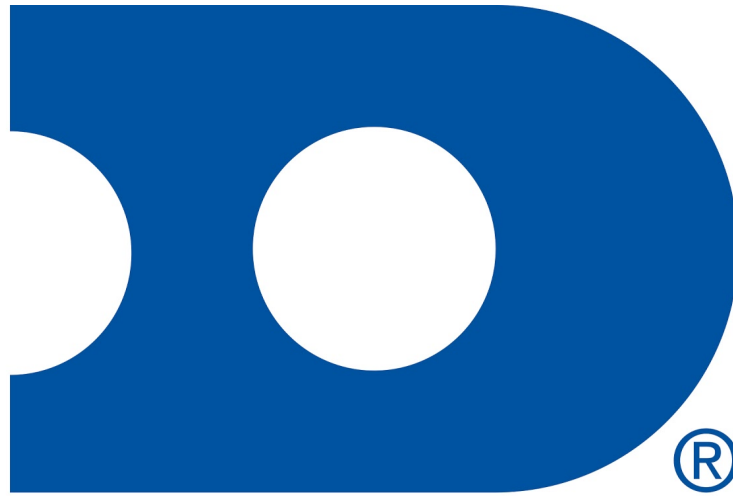
But here's what we are asking you to do. Because this year's campaign is completely digital, please take a few minutes to download the PSAs and send them to all your media contacts. We'll be doing the same on your behalf, but the more times the stations in your state receive the commercials, the better the chance they'll use them.

Here's more good news: You can send them to all your corporate partners, state legislators and friends of your school, too. They tell a great story, and the more people who hear them, the better.

Thank you for all you're doing to promote the value of high school sports and performing arts in your school!

**[Click Here for PSA's](#)**





**DAKTRONICS**

Visit <https://www.daktronics.com/en-us> for more information.



**neffco.com**

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# **Important Dates**

## **IAAA Scholarship Deadline**

May 1, 2021

## **IAAA Board Meeting**

June 8, 2021 @ IHSAA Office

## **IAAA State Conference**

July 26-28, 2021 @ Riverside Hotel, Boise

## **NADC**

December 10-14, 2021

Denver, CO



Visit <https://www.capedcu.com/> for more information.

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## LTI

One of the goals of the NIAAA is to promote professional and personal growth of athletic administrators. Leadership training and certification are two vehicles the NIAAA has developed to help athletic administrators meet those challenges within the local school and community. The purpose of leadership training is to present best practices in use today that will better prepare athletic directors.

Athletic administrators are encouraged to participate in the NIAAA Leadership Training Institute (LTI) either at the state or national level. They are further encouraged to obtain their certification as an RAA, RMSAA, CAA or CMAA.

There are 51 courses available to take. These are broken down into three sections. **Foundation courses (500 classes)** provide a base of knowledge and skill that serves as a platform for conducting educationally sound extra-curricular activities. **Operations and management courses (600 classes)** provide skills, knowledge and best practices that enhance administrator efficiency and effectiveness in the management and operation of extra-curricular activities. **Leadership courses (700 classes)** provide knowledge and skills that will facilitate development of new visions, creative strategies and innovative practices for educationally sound extra-curricular activities.

Each year the IAAA tries to offer one class from each level at the state conference. Instructors are either local or national presenters. This year the IAAA will be offering these classes at our state conference. 706 Coaching Coaches to be Leadership Educators. 502 Athletic Administration: Strategies for Organization Management. 715 Athletic Administration: Appropriate Professional Boundaries. Additionally, courses may be taken at the National Conference or through the NIAAA via webinars or online classes.

For more information you may contact your Idaho LTI Coordinators Polly Dahlke CMAA [dahlkepolly@gmail.com](mailto:dahlkepolly@gmail.com) or Cass Herbst, CMAA [cherbst@nsd131.org](mailto:cherbst@nsd131.org)

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# New AD Spotlight

## Josh Wells ♦ Shelley High School

**Number of years in education:** 4th year teaching, 1st year as AD.

**Family:** Married to Rylee Wells. We have 3 children, ages 3, 5, & 6.

**What you've coached and/or are currently coaching:**

I am currently the head football coach at Shelley High School.

**Why did you decide to become an athletic administrator?**

I like to be involved in helping kids have a positive experience with athletics. I think athletics is one of the few things that can teach kids how to be team members while learning how to overcome and grow personally.

**What are you most enjoying about the job thus far?**

I have enjoyed all of the problem solving that has had to take place to make sure we can compete safely. I also have enjoyed getting to know the other athletic directors. There are some amazing people leading athletics around the state.





## ***Dairy Digest:*** ***Health & Wellness 2021***

As we welcome in 2021, we wanted to reach out to all of our stakeholders, partners, and supporters to share exciting updates on what projects the Dairy West team has in the works! We're looking forward to a year of collaborative opportunities, so we can better our communities together.

-Dairy West Health & Wellness Team

### ***Sports Nutrition Greatness Guide***



***To get the most out of your body, you need to put the best into it.***

That's what our Greatness Guide is all about. Here, you'll find simple tips on how to make food and lifestyle choices that help fuel your greatness—game days, training days, travel days and every day! Check it out [\*\*HERE!\*\*](#)



## CEU Library

Dairy West offers virtual continuing education opportunities quarterly, in which we invite guest experts to discuss topics ranging from agriculture and general nutrition to sports nutrition and sustainability. All of our live webinars are recorded and

are now housed in our [Continuing Education Library](#) for you to watch at your own convenience! Each recorded session's description indicates what type of continuing education credit it is approved for, including ACSM, CDR, SNA, NSCA and more. If you'd like to receive a continuing education certificate for viewing a recording, email Ann Lokuta at [alokuta@dairywest.com](mailto:alokuta@dairywest.com)



## Farm to School

Whether you are a parent teaching your kids from home or a teacher managing students in-class or virtually, we have some new resources to help! Check out our [Farm To School](#) webpage to access new online learning videos with accompanying worksheets. These lessons are for students from elementary to high school, and cover topics such as energy transfer, careers in agriculture, and nutrition.



## The Unbottled Matchmaker

Cheese. It's food and a word that makes us smile, one of those nourishing joys in life. Our region is home to some incredible cheeses, made from local milk with care by local artisans. And every cheese deserves its perfect match. With a little help from our online guide, start with the cheese of your choice and find its ideal beverage and food pairing. Plus, learn more about the variety of cheese made locally in Idaho and Utah. We hope you will enjoy the Unbottled Matchmaker! Visit it [HERE!](#)



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## **Idaho Athletic Administrators Association** **College Scholarship Application**

**Deadline: May 1, 2021**

**Click on the link below for information regarding the scholarship and to access the application.**

[IAAA Application](#)



<https://idaaa.org/>

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## **National Initiative and Assistance Network**

### **Tunnel to Towers Foundation**

A function of the NIAN is to raise awareness and funds to nationwide causes. The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association has selected the Tunnel to Towers Foundation as the 2020 Initiative. The Tunnel to Towers Foundation honors the sacrifice of firefighter Stephen Siller who laid down his life to save others on September 11, 2001. They also honor our military and first responders who continue to make the supreme sacrifice of life and limb for our country.

Working together as an association driven to serve, please join us in making a difference with our military and first responders by encouraging all members to contribute. Please click on the following link to see the campaign video.

[youtube.com/watch?v=E2dnAnJWTDw](https://youtube.com/watch?v=E2dnAnJWTDw)

