



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LINCOLN, NE — The Nebraska School Activities Association is proud to recognize Mr. Bernie Walz of Southwest High School as this week's Above and Beyond Award nominee.**

Bernie is one of those rare individuals whose presence and dedication have become a foundational part of school and community life. For over 30 years, Bernie has faithfully kept the books for both volleyball and basketball at Southwest—quietly, consistently, and without asking for anything in return. He shows up for every varsity home event, not for the recognition or compensation, but because he truly loves supporting student-athletes and being part of the Roughrider family.



Bernie's commitment doesn't stop at the scorer's table. He also serves as a bus driver for the district, ensuring students get to and from their events safely. He often goes above and beyond by delivering Booster Club meals to athletes before road games, helping them stay fueled and focused. And in many cases, he's the one driving them to those games, too—before stepping out of the driver's seat and straight into his role as scorekeeper.

His support stretches well beyond Southwest. Bernie is known across the RPAC Conference as a friendly, familiar face—someone who shows up, helps out, and always finds the hospitality room. He's affectionately known as the "bandit" of hospitality rooms, and coaches and officials across the region look forward to seeing him walk through the door. His light-hearted nature and

sense of humor are always welcome, and his generosity doesn't go unnoticed. There have even been times when Bernie, completely on his own, has purchased pizza or treats for visiting teams—just because he wanted to.

More than just the numbers he records in the scorebook, Bernie has made an immeasurable impact through the care he shows every athlete who walks through the doors of Southwest High. His presence on the bus, at the scorer's table, in the gym, or around town has been a steady source of encouragement and pride for generations of students.

As the years go on, we recognize that we may not have many more opportunities to publicly thank Bernie for all he's done. But today, we do. Bernie Walz embodies what it means to go above and beyond—not for praise, but out of passion for the people and programs he serves.

Mr. Walz is more than deserving of this recognition. His contributions span decades, his heart for students is unmatched, and his legacy will be remembered long after the final buzzer sounds. The NSAA is honored to recognize his service to Southwest High School, to the RPAC Conference, and to the spirit of high school activities across Nebraska.

**The NSAA's Above and Beyond Program is designed to recognize the hidden gems of communities across Nebraska. [Click here to nominate someone today!](#)**