

HALL OF ACHIEVEMENT

2008/2009
Journal

PETER CESARE

Class of 1980

During Pete's years at Copiague High School, he was involved in running cross-country, track, and playing his favorite sport, basketball, where they won league championships in 1979 and 1980. During his senior year, he was named a Suffolk County "all-league" player, and was part of Copiague's 4x400 county qualifying relay. At Senior Awards Night, Pete was presented with the Daniel Curcio Memorial Award, which is given to the school's outstanding athlete. He also received the Outstanding Band Student Award and was inducted into the National Honor Society.

After graduation in 1980, Pete attended SUNY New Paltz where he majored in Business Administration and Management with a minor in coaching. He earned his Masters degree from SUNY Stony Brook and his Educational Administration certification from C. W. Post.

After college, Pete became a high school teaching assistant in math and worked part time for the New York Rangers professional hockey organization at Madison Square Garden. Pete taught physical education from 1987 to 2000 and coached various sports such as JV and varsity soccer, track, and basketball. During this time, his varsity boys' basketball team won two league championships. He was named Coach of the Year on both the junior varsity and varsity level for basketball, and he has coached four state qualifiers in track. For the past eight years, Pete has been the Coordinator of Physical Education and Athletics for the Copiague School District. He is the chairman for Suffolk County girls' tennis and was recently named Suffolk County Athletic Director of the Year by the United States Tennis Association. He is also actively involved in various Section XI committees and has volunteered as a coach for the youth league in his home town.

Pete and his wife Melody, who also teaches in Copiague, live in Bohemia with their sons Nicholas and Alexander. He enjoys spending time with his family and watching his sons participate in various sports and activities.

"It's not who you are underneath. It's what you do that defines you."