

Distinguished Service

Mr. Brian Field (1983)

Mr. Brian Field is a 1983 graduate of Beresford High School. During his high school years, Brian participated in football, basketball, track and field, concert band, marching band, jazz band, musical pit band, National Honor Society, Boys' State, Bersonian and Annual staff, and was Homecoming King. During his high school summers, he participated in VFW Teener and American Legion baseball. During his college summers, he enjoyed coaching the Beresford youth baseball teams, ages 7-16 and playing amateur baseball for Beresford.



After high school, Mr. Field attended the University of South Dakota (USD) in Vermillion, 1983-1987. In 1987, Mr. Field earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from USD with a major in History and minors in Social Sciences and Coaching. In 1995, he earned his Master's in Secondary Educational Administration from South Dakota State University in Brookings. In 2008, he earned his Specialist in Education in the School District Superintendent program at USD.

Mr. Field's first teaching position was at Arlington where he taught junior high and high school social studies courses, including American Government, American History, World History, Civics, Geography, and junior high Physical Education. While at Arlington, he also coached head cross country, assistant boys' basketball, and assistant track and field. He taught and coached at Arlington for eight years, 1987-1995. During his summers at Arlington, he enjoyed coaching all the youth baseball teams, ages 7-18, and eventually the Amateur baseball team.

Mr. Field would then serve as a secondary principal for the next 12 years, 1995-2007. Mr. Field's first principal position was at Freeman Public Junior/Senior High School, where he also served as Activities Director for seven years, 1995-2002. While at Freeman Public, he would become their head cross country coach and assistant track and field coach. Mr. Field then had an opportunity to return to his alma mater, Beresford High School (BHS). He would serve as the principal at BHS for three years, 2002-2005, and served as the head cross country coach his last year at BHS. He then moved to Watertown and served as their high school principal for two years, 2005-2007.

Then for the second time in his career, Mr. Field had an opportunity to return to Beresford and serve his alma mater and the community of Beresford. He became the superintendent of the Beresford School District in July, 2007 and served in that capacity for the next 14 years through

June, 2021. Early in his superintendency, he also served as the co-head coach of the Watchdog cross country team for several years.

With the support of his school board, Mr. Field is proud to have helped develop the Watchdog Foundation as an endowment that provides grants to teachers to enhance learning opportunities for students and fund projects beyond the scope of the regular school budget. Along with his administrative team and support from the school board, and its community partners, together they developed the Watchdog Hall of Fame to recognize alumni, staff, and community members in the four pillars of Academics & Achievement, Fine Arts, Athletics, and Distinguished Service during Homecoming weekend. During his time as superintendent, the District developed a Strategic Plan that aligned to the four pillars as well. Along with the Watchdog Hall of Fame, the new Watchdog Alumni Association has garnered the support of the Beresford School District and its partners including the Watchdog Foundation, Beresford Area Foundation, Beresford Area Arts, and Beresford Athletic Booster Club.

Along with his administrative team and support from the school board and its teachers, Mr. Field helped to develop an Advanced Learning/Tuition Reimbursement program for certified staff to pursue advanced degrees in education, which has a direct benefit for students and their learning, the staff, and schools.

Along with support from the school board, administrative team, and staff, Mr. Field helped to implement a new District website and mobile platform strategy (webpage, live feed, twitter, and Facebook) to provide a better communication system, to help promote the Beresford School District and its student, staff, and school accomplishments, and enhance the user experience for all stakeholders.

During his time as superintendent, the administrative team and school board developed a 10-year plan for capital outlay that improved the District's infrastructure and included facility upgrades, building projects, and major transportation, technology, and equipment purchases. Mr. Field was very proud that the school board remained committed to improving its district facilities, transportation, and technology for students, staff, and programs, including some of the following upgrades, and building projects:

- Elementary Commons/Lobby addition and Gym Floor replacement at the North Campus.
- School Shop addition at the South Campus.
- Wrestling Room, Coaches' Room, Officials' Room, Training Room, and Storage Room addition at the South Campus.
- Football Field and Track and Field renovations and the addition of a Restroom and Concession building, Picnic Shelter, Courtyard, and Entrance at Cortland Carnes Stadium.
- Construction of a state-of-the art Bus Barn, Mechanics Bay, and Wash Bay.
- Major HVAC and Roofing upgrades at both campuses.
- Improved District's Technology and Networking Infrastructure and placed the best tools in the hands of students and staff.

During his 14 years as the superintendent of the Beresford School District, Mr. Field served on the following community and school organizations:

- Beresford Area Foundation Board of Directors.
- Watchdog Foundation Board of Directors. Served as secretary.
- Watchdog Hall of Fame Steering Committee.
- Watchdog Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Committee.
- Beresford Economic Development Corporation. Served as vice-president.
- Beresford Chamber of Commerce. Served as president and vice-president.
- Beresford Parks, Recreation, and Community Education Board of Directors.
- Frostbite 4 Race Committee.
- Tri-County Tour/Duathlon Committee.
- Beresford Lions Club Member.
- Beresford Athletic Booster Club Member.

During his 34 years in education, including 26 years as a school administrator, Mr. Field was a member of the following professional organizations:

- American Association of School Administrators (the School Superintendent's Association).
- School Administrators of South Dakota.
- South Dakota School Superintendents' Association. Served as the state secretary on the Executive Board for 5 years.
- South Dakota Area II Superintendents' Association. Served as the president for 2 years and secretary/treasurer for 2 years.
- South Dakota Beadle Club.
- National Association of Secondary School Principals.
- South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals.
- Southeast Area Principals' Association. Served as president for one year and secretary/treasurer for one year.
- Northeast Area Principals' Association.
- National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association.
- South Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association.
- National High School Coaches' Association.
- South Dakota High School Coaches' Association.
- South Dakota Cross Country & Track and Field Coaches' Association.

Mr. Field retired from education and the Beresford School District on June 30, 2021. Mr. Field's career in education spanned 34 years, 1987-2021, all in South Dakota. During his educational career, Mr. Field received the following awards and honors:

- University of South Dakota School of Education "E.D.G.E" Award for Excellence, Dedication, Generosity, and Empowerment.
- South Dakota School Superintendents' Association "Community Leader of the Year" Award.

- South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals’ “Region 5 Principal of the Year” Award.
- Southeast Area Principals’ Association “Values Driven Work Ethic” Award.
- Southeast Area Principals’ Association “Champion Team Builder” Award.
- South Dakota Interscholastic Athletic Administrators’ Association “Region 6 Athletic Director of the Year” Award.
- South Dakota Cross Country/Track and Field Coaches’ Association “Region 6 Assistant Track and Field Coach of the Year” Award.
- South Dakota Cross Country/Track and Field Coaches’ Association “Region 2 Cross Country Coach of the Year” Award.

Currently, Mr. Field works part-time for Architecture Incorporated in Sioux Falls, serving as an Education Specialist, where he does outreach to school districts, reviews the education and demographic components of school projects, makes recommendations based on findings, and compiles reports and presentations for the firm.

Mr. Field’s family includes his parents, Larry and Janice Field, sister Nicholle Field and her daughter Erin Kinney, brother Brad Field and his wife Joan, and their children Jennifer Field and Tyler Field, and Jennifer’s daughter Aubriana. He has greatly enjoyed following his nieces and nephew throughout their high school and college athletic careers. He has found several new hobbies in his retirement, including pickleball and senior baseball! He remains an avid Beresford Watchdogs, USD Coyotes, and Dallas Cowboys fan!



Congratulations to our Watchdog Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Inductee, Mr. Brian Field!