

## *Doug Marchetti*



**D**OUg MARCHETTI has been an integral part of the local high school sports scene for the past two decades, first as the head coach of the Norwalk-Brien McMahon co-op boys swim team and for the last nine years as the athletic director at NHS.

Under his leadership, the Bears have celebrated success in several sports, including winning state championships in girls basketball and baseball. They've also captured FCIAC titles in boys soccer and girls basketball in addition to a pair of conference runner-up finishes and a trio of division crowns under his watch.

Marchetti's involvement with the city of Norwalk goes back even further. From 1993 to 2001, he taught physical education and health at Rowayton Elementary School while also implementing several school and district-wide events. It was also during this time Marchetti received his Master's Degree in Physical Education in 1994 and his Sixth Year Professional Diploma in 1999 from Southern Connecticut State University.

Then in the summer of 2001, Marchetti moved crosstown to Norwalk High School where he was named the Health and Physical Education Department chairman. In addition to teaching health and PE in grades 9-12, Marchetti served as a liaison between the district department faculty and the central office. In 2009 he added the title of Region II Director of the Connecticut Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

It was with the move to NHS that Marchetti became head coach of a high school varsity sport for the first time when in 2002 he took over the Norwalk-McMahon boys co-op swim team. Over the next 13 years his program produced numerous All-FCIAC and all-state swimmers as well as four Academic All-Americans.

He stepped down as head coach when he was named the Director of Athletics at Norwalk High in 2014. His new responsibilities included overseeing 28 varsity sports with over 800 student athletes participating and a support staff of 85. All while continuing to teach Health and Phys Ed.

In addition, Marchetti has hosted numerous FCIAC and CIAC postseason tournaments at his NHS facilities, in which he served as the site director. He has also been a member of the FCIAC Board of Directors since 2006, serving as president of the conference from 2019-2021, and he continues to sit on a number of state committees.

One of Marchetti's proudest accomplishments as athletic director was beginning the Unified Sports Program at Norwalk High in 2015. As a parent of a special needs child, Marchetti has witnessed firsthand the positive impact both Unified Sports and Special Olympics has had on the NHS community.

NHS isn't the only school at which Marchetti has coached. From 1991-2014 he also served as an assistant football coach at Trumbull High School, his alma mater, where the 1981

graduate lettered in swimming and baseball. After graduating from Slippery Rock University with a degree in Health and Physical Education, Marchetti began his career in education at the Cardinal Sheehan Center in Bridgeport teaching Phys Ed for grades 1-8 as well as all aquatic programs. He later taught at the Hillcrest School in Trumbull and then at Greenwich Catholic School, where he also coached baseball and girls basketball. His next stop was Rowayton School and after that Norwalk High School.

Marchetti has been recognized for his work several times during his career. In 1996 he was named the Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Health, Physical Education,

Recreation and Dance, while in the 2000 he received the *Norwalk Board of Education Fund for Excellence Award*.

In fact, the 2023 Norwalk Old Timers dinner is the second time in the last nine months Marchetti has been honored. In March, he received the *Robert Duncanson Meritorious Service Award* from the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors. The award is presented annually to an individual who has served as an athletic administrator for a number of years and has demonstrated the highest ideals of sportsmanship, integrity, and leadership in the performance of their duties. It also considers the nominees' record of service and contributions to high school athletics.