

Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

VARSITY Staff

Joe Brya (17 seasons)

Varsity Head Coach

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Coach Joe Brya is entering his 5th year as the Head Varsity Football Coach at Grand Ledge High School, and his 17th season overall coaching High School Football. He previously served as an Assistant Coach at the JV & Varsity levels for a combined 3 seasons at Grand Ledge under Coach Matt Bird (2007, 2008, 2012). He has served as a Varsity Head Coach for 10 seasons total with stints at Homer High School (2009-2011, 2016-2017) and Eaton Rapids High School (2018). He was also an Assistant Varsity Coach at Homer from 2013-2015. During his previous 16 seasons as an Assistant Coach and

Head Coach, Coach Brya has coached teams to 93 total wins (47 as a Head Coach), 12 teams to winning seasons, 10 teams to the MHSAA playoffs, 5 teams to the district finals, 2 teams to district championships, & 1 team to a regional championship en route to the State Semi-Finals. Coach Brya is a 2005 graduate of Grand Ledge High School. He was a Varsity letter winner in football, basketball and baseball. He was a 2x All-Conference and All-Area selection at defensive back for the Varsity Comets Football Team, and he served as a Team Captain his senior year. Coach Brya and his wife Jeannette are the proud parents of two children.



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VARSITY Staff

Chad Guild (21 seasons)

Varsity Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Chad Guild is entering his 18th year as the Varsity Offensive Line Coach, and his 21st season overall coaching Grand Ledge High School Football. He spent his first 3 seasons as an Assistant with Freshman and JV. Coach Guild has been a part of 14 playoff seasons during his time coaching at Grand Ledge, including 6 District Finals appearances, 3 district championships, and a Semi-Final appearance in 2015. Coach Guild is a 1997 graduate of Grand Ledge High School. During his time playing at Grand Ledge, he played under Coach O'Keefe as a 3-year starter on the Offensive Line at the Varsity level. He was a Senior Captain, and a 3x All-Conference selection. Additionally, his senior season: he was All-Area, a Lansing State Journal Dream Team selection, and an All-State selection. While a great amount of his success came on the football field as a high school athlete, he also managed to earn Varsity letters as a part of the baseball team, also playing for Coach O'Keefe. Upon graduation in 1997, Coach Guild joined the Grand Rapids Community College football team, playing for them in 1997 and 1998. He was an All-Region selection and Team Captain during his time playing at GRCC. He graduated from GRCC in 1999. After graduating from GRCC, he earned two further degrees from Lansing Community College in 2002 and from Sienna Heights in 2005. Coach Guild and his wife were formerly the owners of First Place Sports in downtown Grand Ledge, taking over for Roger "Moose" Love, for more than 10 years. They have 3 children who all attend Grand Ledge Schools.



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VARSITY Staff

Pat McKennon (15 seasons)

Varsity Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Pat McKennon is entering his 14th season at Grand Ledge, and his 15th season overall coaching High School Football. Coach McKennon is a 1999 graduate of Grand Ledge High School. While at Grand Ledge he earned 7 Varsity letters in Football, Wrestling, and Track. On the football field Coach McKennon was part of the first Comet Football Team to be ranked #1 in the state (#17 nationally). During his junior and senior seasons he kicked 7 field goals and was 77-79 on extra points while hitting 41 in a row. Both are still in the MHSAA record books. His senior year he was chosen to be on the Lansing State Journal Football Dream Team. After high school, Coach McKennon received a scholarship to kick at Hillsdale College where he graduated in four years with a major in History and minor in Political Science. After college, Coach McKennon coached receivers and defensive backs at East Lansing High School for one year while helping them to a State Semi-Final berth in 2007. In 2010 he returned to coach kickers at Grand Ledge High School where he has worked with the program for the last 13 seasons. Coach McKennon was a 7th grade teacher in East Lansing for 15 years. In 2021, he accepted a teaching position at Grand Ledge HS. He resides in Grand Ledge with his wife Jamie and two boys Alex and Ben.



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VARSITY Staff

Vincent Cook (8 seasons)

Varsity Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Vincent Cook is entering his 8th season overall coaching Grand Ledge Football. Coach Cook began coaching during the 2016 season as the JV Linebackers coach. Coach Cook is a 2011 graduate of Grand Ledge High School where he earned 5 Varsity letters total in Football and in Track. Coach Cook was a member of the 3rd team in school history to go 9-0 in 2008, and then he would be a senior captain on the fourth team to go 9-0 in 2010. In football, Coach Cook was named All-Conference & Academic All-Conference in 2009 and 2010, and Academic All-State in 2010. Additionally, Coach Cook was a recipient of the CAAC Scholar Athlete Award which is awarded to senior athletes who are top 10 in GPA of 2-sport athletes from each CAAC school. After high school, he went on to play football as a Linebacker and an H-Back for 5 seasons with Hillsdale College. Coach Cook was a member of the 2011 Hillsdale College team that would end up being the first outright GLIAC Champions at Hillsdale since 1988. Coach Cook spent the entirety of his final spring semester at Hillsdale living in Sevilla, Spain to complete his Spanish major. He graduated in 2016 from Hillsdale College with a double major in Spanish & English and a minor in Math. He spent the 2016-2017 school year teaching Spanish at Hayes Middle School in Grand Ledge. He is entering his 7th year teaching Spanish & English at Grand Ledge High School. Coach Cook and his wife Caroline, also a 2011 GLHS grad, reside in Grand Ledge with their son, Calvin, and daughter, Chloe.



Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

VARSITY Staff

Phil Cutts (3 seasons)

Varsity Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Phil Cutts is entering his 3rd season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football. Coach Cutts is a 1984 graduate of Lansing Eastern High School. During his time there, he was a 3x Varsity letterman in football, 2x letterman in wrestling, & 2x letterman in Track. He would start at defensive end for the 1982 & 1983 football teams, winning the CAC league title and going 8-1 in 1983. He earned All-Conference honors after his senior season in 1983 as a defensive end. As a wrestler, during his senior season (1983-1984), Coach Cutts was an individual League Champ, Regional Runner-Up, State Qualifier, State All-Star Selection; while the team won the CAC ('83 & '84), District Champs, Regional Champs, & was the 1984 State Runner-Up. Coach Cutts also competed in Shot, Discus, & the Mile Relay in track, while winning the league title in discus. Coach Cutts would then earn an Athletic Scholarship to wrestle collegiately at Grand Valley State. He wrestled for 2 seasons at 167 lbs. Coach Cutts began a coaching career at Grand Ledge in 2013 as an Assistant Wrestling Coach. He coached with the Grand Ledge Middle School and High School wrestling programs as an assistant for 4 years, including the interim High School Head Coach in 2018. Coach Cutts has also coached youth sports in Grand Ledge as a Head Coach for 1 season with Girls' Basketball and 3 years as an assistant coach for Junior Comets Softball. Coach Cutts is entering his 9th school year with Grand Ledge Public Schools and his 8th as the Dean of Students at the High School. He is the proud father of 3 children: Jordan, Justin, and Angelia.



Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

VARSIITY Staff

Mark Konieczny (3 seasons)

Varsity Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Mark Konieczny is entering his 3rd season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football.



VARSIITY Staff

Rob Currie (5 seasons)

Varsity Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2019

Rob Currie is entering his 5th season as a Grand Ledge High School Football Coach.



Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

VARSITY Staff

Brad Arnett (2 seasons)

Freshman Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Brad Arnett is entering his 2nd season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football. Coach Arnett is a 2009 graduate of Haslett High School. During his time there, he played football all four years, and he was a starting Linebacker for the Varsity squad his final 2 seasons. His senior season in 2008, the team would win the CAAC-Gold League Title, and Coach Arnett would earn



All-Conference and All-Area honors as a Linebacker. While a member of the program as a freshman in 2005, the Varsity squad would go 13-1 on their way to being State Runner-Ups. Coach Arnett would then go on to attend Michigan State, graduating in 2013. Coach Arnett began his coaching career at Fowlerville High School in 2020 working with the JV squad. He joined the Grand Ledge Staff as tech support in 2021 before coaching the Freshman defense in 2022. He is entering his 3rd school year in Grand Ledge teaching 7th grade health at Beagle Middle School. He and his wife are expecting their first child this fall.

Brad Durham (22 seasons)

Varsity Statistician, Equipment Coordinator

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Brad has volunteered 21 years as the equipment coordinator for varsity games as well as the game night statistician. Grand Ledge Football would not be the same, nor would it run as efficiently without the endless help and support from Mr. Durham.



Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

Junior Varsity (JV) Staff

David Lynch (21 seasons)

JV Head Coach

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2021

David Lynch is entering his 5th season at Grand Ledge, and his 21st season overall coaching High School Football. Coach Lynch is a 1985 graduate of Eaton Rapids High School. During his time there playing football, he was a 2-time Varsity letterman in both football and baseball. He earned All-Conference and Academic All-Conference in football as a wide receiver in 1983 and 1984. Coach Lynch was heavily recruited to play college football by three MAC



schoools: Eastern, Western, and Bowling Green. For personal reasons, Coach Lynch decided to forgo playing college football in order to attend ITT Technical Institute. Before Coach Lynch joined the Grand Ledge Football staff in the summer of 2019, he spent 17 seasons coaching football at Eaton Rapids: 1 season as the Varsity Defensive Coordinator, 6 seasons as a Varsity Assistant, 3 seasons as a JV assistant, and 7 seasons as a Middle School Head Coach. Coach Lynch was a member of the coaching staff under legendary Coach Mike Smith that took Eaton Rapids to the state playoffs for the first time in school history. Doing so in back-to-back seasons, and, subsequently, winning district championships (back-to-back) for the first time in school history in the same seasons in 2013 and 2014. Coach Lynch currently works for the City of Detroit as a Mechanical Inspector. Coach Lynch is also an avid and skilled bowler in the Greater Lansing Area, consistently averaging a score of over 200 per season, with his highest year averaging 226. Coach Lynch has also played competitive, fast-pitch, men's softball for more than 15 years. Coach Lynch and his wife Claudia have 4 children, and 5 grandchildren.

Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

Junior Varsity (JV) Staff

David Marquette (3 seasons)

JV Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2021

David Marquette is entering his 3rd season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football.



Junior Varsity (JV) Staff

Tony Sweet (35 seasons)

JV Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2021

Tony Sweet is entering his 35th season coaching football overall. Coach Sweet has coached football and basketball for more than 30 seasons in multiple communities (majority being in GL), and during that time he has influenced the lives of many players, students, and community members in an immeasurably positive way. Coach Sweet has coached at some level of High School Football for nearly 35 years with more than 30 of those years coming at Grand Ledge High School.

He has spent more than 25 years as an Assistant or

Head Coach at various intervals at both the Freshman and JV levels, always willing to go where he was needed most within the program to best support the players. During his time coaching Freshman and JV Football, he helped coach many teams to undefeated seasons and conference championships in the 1990s and 2000s as very few of the JV or Freshman teams lost even 1 game per season during those stretches. He also assisted at the Varsity level for Grand Ledge



Grand Ledge Football Coaching Staff (Aug. 2023)

Football for 3 seasons. Coach Sweet is a 1974 graduate of Grand Ledge High School. During his time as a student-athlete, he was a 3-sport Varsity athlete. He played Varsity Football, Basketball, and Baseball, and he was a 1st-team All-Conference selection in all 3 sports. Coach Sweet was a member of the first team in school history to go 9-0 in 1973 during his senior season. He was also a member of a few of the teams near the end of the incredible run of 6 straight conference championships in football ('69-'74). While Coach Sweet has spent many years coaching football, he was also involved extensively in High School Basketball in the state of Michigan. Coach Sweet began his coaching career in basketball at Grand Ledge as a Head 8th Grade Basketball Coach for 1 season ('83-'84) before becoming the Head JV Coach for 9 seasons ('84-'91, '94-'96). He would then become the Head Varsity Basketball Coach at 3 different schools, coaching at that position for 20 seasons: Leslie High School for 3 seasons ('91-'94), Grand Ledge High School for 13 seasons ('96-'10), and Brighton High School for 4 seasons ('10-'14). During his tenure as the Head Varsity Basketball Coach at Brighton High School, he continued to coach football as an Assistant for their Varsity Football Team, helping coach the team to 3 playoff appearances and a conference championship from 2010-2013. During his 20 seasons as a Head Varsity Basketball Coach, Coach Sweet coached 2 teams to conference championships (GL '02-'03, Brighton '10-'11), 6 teams to District Finals (GL '92,'94,'98,'00,'04,'10), and 2 teams to District Championships (GL '98, '00). Coach Sweet also coached NBA veteran Al Horford, and additional college basketball standouts Jon Horford (UofM/Florida), Joe Estrada (CMU/LCC), and Brian Westrick (MSU).

JV Staff

Sam McDiarmid (2 seasons)

Freshman Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2021

Sam McDiarmid is entering his 2nd season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football.



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FRESHMAN Staff

Scott McDaniels (2 seasons)

Freshman Head Coach

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Scott McDaniels is entering his 2nd season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football. He spent 4 football seasons coaching at the youth and middle school level for Grand Ledge prior to joining the HS staff in 2022.

Coach McDaniels is a 1997 graduate of Grand Ledge High School. During his time playing at Grand Ledge, he played under Coach O'Keefe as a 2-year starter at Quarterback at the Varsity level. He was a Senior Captain, and an All-Area & Lansing State Journal Dream Team selection. He also managed to earn 4 Varsity letters as a part of the baseball team, also playing for Coach O'Keefe. He started at Shortstop for 3 years, including winning the 1995 Class A State Championship. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 2001. He has 2 children that attend Grand Ledge Schools.



FRESHMAN Staff

Matt Nixon (1 season)

Freshman Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Matt Nixon is entering his 1st season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football.



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FRESHMAN Staff

Tyler Hubert (1 season)

Freshman Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2021

Tyler Hubert is entering his 1st season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football.



FRESHMAN Staff

Andy “Stump” McLean (1 season)

Freshman Assistant

Photo by Marvin Hall (Studio M Sports) - 2022

Stump McLean is entering his 1st season coaching Grand Ledge High School Football.

