

Gary Jahnke

Gillette



Gary (known affectionately as Yonks) began his coaching career in 1968 in Gillette, Wyoming for Campbell County School District at Central Junior High which later became Twin Spruce Junior High and retired in 2007. During his 39-year career, he worked as both junior high assistant and head coach positions and coached at least 3000 athletes in football, wrestling, and girls and boys track.

Coaching Honors Include:

- 1990 – CCSD Junior High Coach of the Year
- 1998 – CCSD Junior High Coach of the Year
- 2005 – WCA Junior High Coach of the Year
- 2012 – WCA Junior High Gold Milestone for Wrestling
- 2012 - WCA Junior High Silver Milestone for Football
- 2012 – WCA Junior High Bronze Milestone for Girls and Boys Track

As obviously important as the win/loss record was for both coaches and athletes, the other most rewarding aspects of his coaching career were the close bonds established with other coaches both “home and away,” and the relationships with the athletes, watching them grow, improve, and compete at the high school level and in many cases beyond. His coaching philosophy tried to encourage each student athlete to compete at their very personal best. He is appreciative for the many years he was able to coach and the total support of his wife, Marilyn, and children, during the many late nights and weekends away while living “The Dream.”