



MEET THE ATHLETIC COUNCIL

**Jon MacSwan
Cleveland Hill Schools
Erie 1 BOCES Superintendents' Representative**



It is interesting to examine a story and consider how chance, happenstance and timing not only influenced an individual, but many people. Such is the case when you consider that Jon MacSwan's career in education may have only come about thanks to a community service project conducted by the football team at Alfred State University.

MacSwan, a Business major, and his teammates volunteered to assist with a group of Special Olympians. The day was so impactful for the Niagara Wheatfield product, that he switched his major to Elementary and Special Education. Twenty-seven years later, Jon has served as a Superintendent (10 years) which followed positions including as a Special Education teacher with Niagara Wheatfield, Lake Shore and Stueben-Allegany BOCES. After leaving the classroom, MacSwan served as Assistant Principal at Williamsville East High School and as Principal of West Seneca West High School.

The Niagara Wheatfield Falcon, and one of three siblings, Jon participated in football, wrestling and track. After graduating from Alfred University, he earned a Master's in Learning & Behavioral Disorders from Buffalo State College (BSC), an Education Administration degree from St. Bonaventure/BSC and finally the Superintendent Development Program from SUNY-Oswego.

Jon and his wife Jill, a 4th grade teacher in Springville, have two children. Daughter Shelby, a former swimmer at East Aurora, is now a sophomore at Penn State. Son Shane is graduating this year from EA where he participated in football, wrestling and lacrosse. He is going to Case Western Reserve next year to play football.

MacSwan is currently President of the Erie-Niagara School Superintendent Association and serves on the Executive Board of the Erie County Association of School Boards. He feels extremely fortunate and humbled to lead the Cleveland Hill School District and says, "I am most proud of the incredible group of people that I work with. Cleveland Hill is a special place, and I am proud to be a part of it".

Eight year Athletic Director, Jason Przybysz touts his Golden Eagle boss as encouraging, supportive and proactive. "Mr. MacSwan wants all students to have the best experience possible and he knows first-hand, the importance of 'the extras' that a district can offer its students". Przybysz cites Jon as instrumental in the latest Capital Project, which included enhancements to the athletic facilities.

Included in the project was an upgrade to the entire football field and track, adding restrooms and renovating the concession stand, relocating the varsity softball field and enclosing it to feel more like a stadium. Under Jon and Jason's leadership, Cleveland Hill refinished the High School's gym floor with new artwork, while also expanding the Fitness Center and purchasing new equipment.

Przybysz continues, "Jon is available for any conversation, formulating budgets, program planning or just a passing conversation. He frequently walks through the building and makes appearances at our athletic events. I am blessed to have him as our Superintendent. I respect him and value the relationship that we have built".

All from a chance encounter with a college football coach and a community project that changed the direction of Jon MacSwan's life. That good fortune has made all the difference and has contributed to the experiences of students from several districts, most recently the Cleveland Hill Golden Eagles.