

Open Letter to the Slinger Football Program (August 20, 2021)

It's with mixed emotions that I'm announcing my resignation as President of Slinger Gridiron, effective September 1, 2021.

I've had the great fortune of serving this program as a youth coach for nine seasons and Gridiron President for the past six years, and during that time we've seen a lot of growth in numbers and impact. We've always consistently had enough players for at least one team at each grade level, and sometimes two. Now we have two teams at each level every year and nearly 200 players this season; in our league, only Muskego has a program our size. We added a cheerleading program in 2019 that now has over 40 members, making us (I believe) the largest cheer program in the league. We were early adopters of the AAYFL's more stringent background check program and voluntarily initiated annual coach certifications through USA Football. Our board members and Safety Team defined and modeled practical, common sense COVID protocols (thanks again, Carrie Johnson!). All of this, along with financial support, feeds into our high school program, ultimately resulting in one of the strongest programs in our area.

We enjoy amazing partnerships in Slinger. Our relationship with Slinger schools and the district as a whole is so strong. We work with Slinger Parks, Recreation and Forestry to foster a seamless link from Flag Football through Varsity. We also established the annual Jose A. Rivera, III Memorial Scholarship in honor of an amazing young man who represented what we're all about. Finally, we've been very fortunate to have the continued support of so many local businesses and leaders who contribute financially through our Slinger Safety Sponsor ("Triple-S") program, driving our continual pursuit of safety and excellence on the field.

While I still love serving our youth through Gridiron, I hope to serve all of Slinger's youth in a greater capacity in the very near future. I'll be running for Slinger School Board in the spring of 2022, and I want to be prepared to do so to the best of my ability. I assure you that our program is in VERY good hands. Our current Board of Directors is nothing short of amazing – energetic servant leaders who want only the best for your kids and our program. Please support them with the patience and trust that you've always shown me.

I will always cherish the relationships I've had with the parents and kids that make up our Slinger football family. It's so humbling to me that so many parents would be willing to entrust their children to our program each year. I've always said it's an honor to have that trust. I truly thank all of you – players and parents, past and present.

I will continue to pray to the Lord for Slinger Gridiron's growth and success, and I give Him all of the credit for the joys and lessons I've experienced on this journey. God bless you all.

GO OWLS!!

Bill Brewer