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**Coach Jim Giddings – Athletic Coaching Inductee**

**Baseball Coach**

Coach Giddings began his coaching career with Holton Public Schools in 1998 as a JV Baseball Coach. He served in this position until transitioning to the Varsity Baseball Coach in 2003. Coach Giddings continued as the Varsity Baseball Coach for 18 seasons. In total, he served the Holton High School Baseball program for 23 years. The impact Coach Giddings has had on Holton Baseball is generational impacting students, staff, and community members still to this day.

Coach Giddings’ impact on Holton Baseball began as a four year student athlete with Holton High School Baseball. He graduated from Holton High School in 1977 and became a proud supporter of his alma mater. Coach Giddings started a family in the community and soon returned to the ball field to help coach youth league baseball. He continued to coach baseball building relationships with these young ball players into middle school and high school athletes. By the time he became a varsity coach, Coach Giddings was coaching some of his athletes since they were in third grade. His leadership led Holton Varsity Baseball to have highly competitive seasons for many years. Coach Giddings led multiple teams to district and conference titles, multiple regional titles, and quarter and semifinal finishes in the state tournament. The team’s state championship run in 2006 was the first time in 11 years any Muskegon Area baseball team advanced that far in post season play. Giddings was named the Chronicle’s Division 3-4 All-Area Coach in 2006 and 2007. Giddings dedication provided Holton Baseball years of opportunity for student athletes to grow and succeed. Even since retiring as the Varsity Baseball Coach, Coach Giddings can still be spotted coaching on the baseball field at youth league games teaching his grandchildren the game he loves in a community he has served so well. The legacy continues.

Coach Giddings is remembered by his players for his knowledge of the game and his patience in teaching how to play the game right. His players always knew he genuinely cared about them. For Coach Giddings’s years of commitment and dedication to Holton Baseball and his incredible impact on the lives of the many baseball players he served and continues to serve, the Holton Athletic Hall of Fame is honored to induct Coach Jim Giddings.