

JOSEPH J. ALISSI



Joe began working at K-O in 1960 and is perhaps the greatest ambassador the School has ever had. He coached wrestling, soccer, football and lacrosse. His wrestling teams captured two state championships and finished each season in the top five in the Western New England Wrestling Association. He also single-handedly operated the hockey rink for many years.

Joe also taught math and served as the form master for Form I. From 1966 to 1999, he served as the School's director of athletics, and during his tenure, the athletic program was expanded from nine interscholastic varsity-level sports to 27. In 2002, he received the Swan Award, which recognizes faculty who have been outstanding in developing leadership and character in their students.

Joe graduated from Springfield College, where he was a New England wrestling champion in 1954, 1955 and 1956 and a New England Outstanding Wrestler. In 1956, Joe upset the three-time NCAA champion by pinning him during the 123-pound semifinal match, called one of the Top 10 Tournament Bouts of All Time by the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Centennial Committee. Joe is a member of the Springfield College Hall of Fame, and he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2005. Joe also served as commissioner of the Connecticut Interscholastic Wrestling Officials Association, handling assignments for all New England colleges, prep schools and high schools for more than 30 years. He also officiated the National Collegiate Wrestling Championships three times.

In April 2006, Joe received the Nadal Award, given annually by the Founder's League in recognition of contributions and commitment to athletics.