

Kari Bensend Frisco Centennial High School

Kari graduated from Richardson High School in 1977 and attended Oklahoma University playing volleyball as an outside hitter from 1977-1980 while grabbing a BS in Physical Education so she could wear shorts and t-shirts and teach kids how to move. She has just completed her 40th year in public education in Texas.

Kari got her first teaching job at R.L Turner High School in Carrollton where she coached volleyball, basketball, and track from 1983-2003. She then opened Frisco Centennial High School and coached volleyball from 2003-2023 and has been the women's coordinator there since 2004. Her teams have made it to some level of the playoffs numerous years and have taken her as far as the Regional Finals several times.

Her TGCA member # is 4011.....so you can do the math on that......

During this time, she served on the TGCA volleyball committee as a member, vice chair and chair, while also serving on several All-Star, All-State and All-Tournament committees. She has coached several of her All-Star and All-State players along with Frisco ISD's first AVCA All-American in 2015, Micaya White. Kari also got the opportunity to speak at several TGCA clinics around the state. She has been lucky enough to serve on the Board of Directors before becoming President of the association in 2012. She was chosen to serve as a TGCA All-Star coach in 2007 (exactly 30 years after she played in her own TGCA All-Star game) and again in 2015.

Kari's athletes are her babies, and her coaches are part of her family. She resides in Richardson, enjoys time with her 4 siblings, their families and her ma. She is THE best aunt to her numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews, and plans to spend some much-awaited time with all.

Kari's last day as an educator was June 6th, 2023. She has retired and will spend her time between Richardson and Horseshoe Bay playing golf with Eli, enjoying numerous hobbies and traveling the United States!

She has adored her time in education and coaching and can't think of anything else she would have chosen as a career. The true friends she has collected along the way are the essence of her being and they are all appreciated more than she can ever convey!

Thanks for all the memories!!