



Howell High School  
1200 W. Grand River  
Howell, MI 48843  
517.540.8300  
**HowellSchools.com**

June 2018

## **Background & Rationale Information for Field Naming**

The information below outlines coach Dukes contributions to the education of Howell students over a 40 plus year career.

With the permission of Mr. John Young, HPS Athletic Director and Mr. Erin MacGregor, Howell Public Schools Superintendent, a committee was convened to discuss, research, and propose to the Howell Public Schools Board of Education to name the Howell High School Football Field "John Dukes Field."

The committee outlined Mr. Dukes' contributions to the education of Howell students. His 35 plus years of service in the classroom, and his impact in the Howell community, which includes 40 plus years of coaching and community service showcase his 'significant contribution' to HPS.

Mr. John Dukes is a lifelong Howell resident. He was born here and to this day still resides in the city of Howell. Mr. Dukes graduated from Howell High School and attended Alma College on an academic scholarship. He earned a double major from Alma College in Biology and Exercise Health and Science. Upon graduating from Alma he returned to Howell to serve as a teacher and coach for the entirety of his career.

Mr. Duke's dedication to Howell Public Schools is long standing. Growing up, he served as a ball boy for six years for the football program before entering high school where he excelled as a 3-sport athlete in baseball, basketball, and football. During his teaching tenure he served the district in both the physical education and science departments teaching various courses while instructing thousands of Howell students. In addition to the classroom, Mr. Dukes served as coach for the football, baseball, wrestling, and middle school basketball programs. Today, Mr. Dukes works at multiple sporting events for the district as a clock operator and periodically volunteers to coach in the football program.

### ***Resume Highlights***

- 25 Years Howell High School Head Varsity Football Coach
- MHSFCA Hall of Fame
- MHSFCA Regional Coach of the Year
- MHSFCA All Star Coach
- MHSCA Hall of Fame Nominee
- Alma College Hall of Fame
- Howell High School Athletic Hall of Fame
- 8 MHSAA Playoff Appearances
- 2 Time MHSAA Regional Finalist
- 5 Time Conference Champions
- 161 Team Wins as the Head Coach



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Even with the all of the individual success, team success, and awards, the reason John Dukes is being nominated by the committee is because of his integrity. In speaking with countless people, everyone spoke of John's integrity, character, and dedication to Howell Public Schools. If you get to know John, you quickly learn his priorities are faith, family, friends, and community. John has been loyal to Howell his entire life.

It is due to John Dukes' significant, outstanding, and enduring commitment to Howell Public Schools, Howell High School, and Howell Athletics that the committee wishes to name the Howell High School athletic field at Memorial Stadium *John Dukes Field*. We hope you support this proposal wholeheartedly in honor of John Dukes, a true Highlander for Life!





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