



## JOHN STEPHENS

John Stephens graduated from Point Pleasant Borough High School in 1976. He is a lifetime resident of Point Pleasant and attend the Point Pleasant Borough school system from kindergarten through grade 12. As a junior, John played basketball on the high school team that went 24-4 for the season. He was also selected for Boys' State that year. In his senior year he was selected as "Most Valuable Player" and "First Team All Ocean County" for basketball.

After high school John attended Assumption College in Massachusetts, majoring in Social Rehabilitation Counseling and Education. He also attended the University of Bath on an exchange program, where he played basketball and rugby. John graduated college in 1980 and began teaching and coaching basketball. John's teaching career has spanned both elementary and secondary levels. He was the boys varsity basketball coach at Point Pleasant High School for seven years. He also coached the Monmouth/Ocean 17-year and under AAU team to the State Championship. This team also placed third in the National Tournament that year.

In 1985 John co-founded and co-directed the Hart's AC Summer Basketball Camp. The camp is now the oldest basketball camp in Ocean County that involves both boys and girls. John was also director of the International Basketball Academy in Pula, Yugoslavia from 1985-1989. The camp was run for two weeks each summer, which drew over 200 children from all parts of Europe. In 1989 John coached a professional team in Zagreb, Croatia. Drazen Petrovic, who was considered the greatest European player of all time, led the team.

While coaching and teaching in Point Pleasant, John was involved in playing on a charity basketball team called the WOBM No-Stars. This team was comprised of former high school and college players, who raised thousands of dollars for a variety of charities while playing teams throughout New Jersey.

John presently resides in New Jersey with his wife, Linda, and their dog, Jax. John is currently an Enrichment/SAT Prep teacher at Point Pleasant High School. He plans to continue pursuing his interests in coaching youth basketball and spending time with family and friends.