

My coaching philosophy begins with my purpose for coaching: ***To be significant in the lives of young people, leading with love and trust to cultivate lifelong relationships.*** To be significant is having a transformational influence upon those I serve.

Next, I lead with my **core values of love, trust, unity, and mudita**-having vicarious joy in someone else's success. I love coaching, love seeing young people grow, and love the relationships forged through the player/coach relationship. Strong relationships are founded in the trust gained through the consistency of my words and actions. A unified team is created through the connections made between players, resulting in a brotherhood. People are willing to do great things for those they love. The most important factor in team culture is the ability to get more excited for someone else than yourself, resulting in the immeasurable quality of mudita.

I believe in **servant leadership**, and helping those I serve meet their goals and dreams. My role as a leader is to help people get what they want out of life. I will invest in the people I work with and help them **grow** as a person and a player. Sports psychologist Fergus Connolly offers "Coach the person first, player second." A player's growth is directly connected to the **relationship** that exists between the player and coach. Players don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

I am a passionate teacher of the skills and fundamentals needed to be a successful football player. I work to transfer that energy or "**shaktipat**" the players to achieve their maximum performance. Our players will learn how to be **great competitors**. Playing football won't make someone a better basketball, hockey or baseball player. Playing football will make them a great competitor, which will be the difference in their success in other sports. It's important to me to make people feel valued. Recognizing and **celebrating** the contributions of everyone who helps make the program operate is not only a priority but motivates people to do more.

A major factor that is in our control is attitude. **Attitude is everything** - A.I.E. As coaches & players, we will project POSITIVE thinking, words, & body language. **Hard work** is necessary to get better at anything. What you put into something, you'll get out of it. Furthermore, It's critical to have the mindset of constantly improving both physically and mentally. Improve daily! The most important reason kids play sports is to have **FUN!** I will be intentional about creating fun during practice, games, and in the daily interactions between players and coaches.

My ultimate goal for every Delano Football player is to become the best version of themselves, and lead a life of integrity as future spouses, parents, and community members. This is known as **AKHANDATA**.