

2025 Boys Volleyball Hall of Fame

Sue Ellen Haak New Trier High School

Sue Ellen Haak has been a constant of New Trier High School's volleyball program since 1998, serving as the head coach of the boys' team since 2001. Daughter of Hall of Fame Niles West Football Coach, Bill Richardson, her career began as a setter at Niles North High School and she continued playing as a setter at Bethel College in St. Paul, MN. In 1996, she started her coaching career at Plainfield High School before joining New Trier.

Under Coach Haak's leadership, New Trier has achieved remarkable success, including:

- Nine state tournament appearances
- Six consecutive appearances from 2013 to 2019.
- Five top-four finishes, securing two second-place, one third-place, and one fourth-place trophies.
- 635+ Career wins

Coach Haak attributes her success to the exceptional athletes, great parents, and supportive administrators at New Trier. She has also been fortunate to co-coach with many esteemed assistants over the years, notably Dick Dreis, with over 50 years of coaching experience, and Evan Hsieh, who has contributed more than 25 years to the program. Both are integral to the team's achievements.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Coach Haak draws profound strength from her faith in God, the unwavering support of her husband, David, and the steady encouragement of her parents, Bill and Joan. Her children, Will and Ellie—both exceptional volleyball players in their own right—have been constant sources of support and inspiration. Even amid the demands of being a busy mother, they encouraged her to continue coaching, championing her role as both mother and coach.