



Michael Roberge has been a dedicated Kittery School District employee for nearly 25 years. For the majority of that time, he has worked at Traip Academy as a teacher, coach, and administrator. He is arguably the face of Traip Academy—the person whose name has been used synonymously with the school—the perfect ambassador. Honestly, those deep roots concerned me when I became Traip Academy’s principal in 2012. Would this staff identify me as the building leader with Mike demonstrating such experience and commitment to the school? My worries were short-lived. From day one, Mike pledged his support to me. Almost immediately, he became a person upon whom I placed absolute trust. I could talk to Mike about anything, and I never had to worry about it being repeated outside the office walls. As the District’s superintendent, I continue to have that same level of trust in Mike, and I know the current Traip Academy principal, John Drisko, values that same level of trust and confidence in Mike.

Michael Roberge has the perfect skillset for an athletics director. His love for athletics is exceeded only by his love of students. He is a gifted communicator, both written and oral. In even the most difficult and contentious situations, Mike has demonstrated diplomacy and patience. Even when I believed that he had been unfairly treated by a parent or community member, Mike maintained calmness, grace, courtesy, and pure decency. He is a gentleman and a wonderful example for our student-athletes. Mike advocates passionately for students in Kittery. Whether he is expanding new programs or cultivating existing ones, Mike ALWAYS makes decisions with the students’ best interest in mind.

My only concern about Mike is that he puts so much time into his work. He is at Traip Academy by 6:30 AM each morning, and on many occasions, he is the last to leave. As I write this testimonial, Mike is working on our fields (on a Saturday, of course) with his own equipment so that our student-athletes can get outside for practices. In spite of his exhaustive commitment, Mike is a family man; there is no disputing that his wife, children, and parents take top billing in his life. In that respect, he has been a great example for me and for the larger Kittery community as well. He is a shining example of a highly effective athletics director, and I am so pleased that the MIAAA has recognized him with the **Robert Boucher 7th Player Service Award**.