



Tyler Lloyd
Sheldon High School

How long have you been at your current school?
9 years

What was your coaching path to your current school?

I was a student assistant at Morningside College in the Spring of 2010 after finishing up my playing career in the fall of 2009. I coached for two seasons at Sibley-Ocheyedan and have been coaching at Sheldon since the fall of 2012.

What is an earliest memory that helps us understand how you fell in love with football?

I got to stay up late to watch Monday Night Football week 6 in 1993, that game was Oilers vs. Bills, if it got you out of going to bed at age 6 it must be a good thing.

Which coach had the greatest impact on you growing up?

My high school coach Matt Meendering had the greatest impact on me. I did not play football my freshman year and when I came back out he welcomed me with open arms. He taught me the values of hard work and truly made playing football fun. Pancake blocks on Fridays were rewarded with pancake breakfasts on Wednesdays. Those times meant a lot to me during that period of my life. My father was never in the picture growing up and Coach Meendering was a role model for me. His influence shaped my career path, and his guidance allowed me to accomplish things I never thought possible.

If you could pick one aspect of your coaching career that you are the proudest of, what would it be?

I'm most proud of our increased participation numbers within our program. Five years ago, we only had 36 players out for football in grades 9-12. This past year we reached 70 participants. We've used a variety of methods for our program development, and we are intentional about meeting the needs of our players through our character development program, team retreats, apparel, and team meals. This approach shows players that we care about them outside of football. We've also developed an NFL Flag program in Sheldon for kids ages 3rd-6th grade which has grown exponentially the past 5 years. Our current players run this program, and it has been a tremendous success. In my opinion, more is more, and we can never do enough to give kids the opportunity to be involved with football.

We are in the middle of clinic season, how do you approach an upcoming clinic?

For me, the clinics are two-fold. It's an opportunity to learn from the best, but it is also a unique opportunity to get out of town with the coaching staff and develop those relationships as well. I find clinics to provide more validation at this point in my career as opposed to finding "answers". I make it a point to attend sessions in areas that I am weak in. I also find myself attending more sessions on program building, culture, development, etc. than the X's and O's.

Which coaches are on speed dial for help and why?

Jason Groendyke is my assistant head coach at Sheldon. He's served in a variety of different roles on our staff both offensively and defensively. His flexibility has been a real asset for our program, and has allowed us to add additional coaches to our staff. We have a shared vision for the program and truly want what's best for the players. Andrew Kleeman at Nevada was a college teammate of mine and a great friend. We talk each weekend during the season and hash out ideas for game planning, scheme, practice,

really anything related to our current positions. Matt Meendering is currently the Principal at Dowling Catholic and if I have questions I know I can always turn to him for advice.