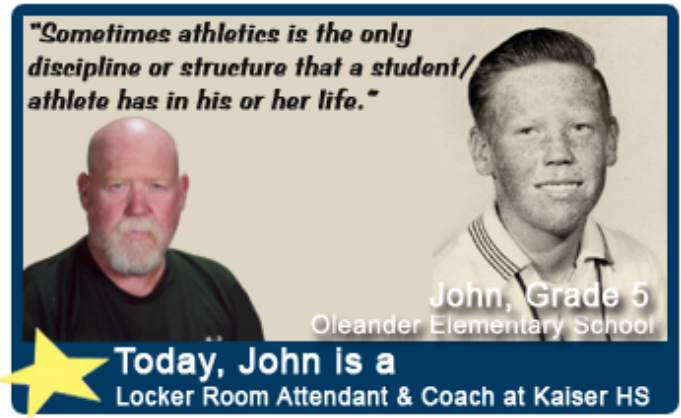




Fontana STAR

John Stevens shares how he is inspired



Profile in Excellence:	John Stevens, Locker Room Attendant & Coach
FUSD Schools Attended:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redwood Elementary School ▪ Oleander Elementary School ▪ Fontana Junior High School ▪ Fontana High School – Class of 1966
Higher Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chaffey Community College ▪ Cal State San Bernardino
FUSD Career Experiences:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campus Security Officer – Fontana High School ▪ Baseball and Softball Coach – Fontana High School ▪ Locker Room Attendant – Kaiser High School ▪ Softball and Football Coach – Kaiser High School ▪
Who were the FUSD staff that affected you most as a student?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>At Oleander: Mr. Bernard Cinque</i> ▪ <i>At Fojay: Mr. Pete Pearsall, Mr. Robert Flores, Mr. Duane Milleman, Mr. Thomas Conway</i> ▪ <i>At Fohi: Mr. Walter O'Farrell, Mr. Emil Velasquez, Mr. Charles Redd, Mr. Robert Johnston, Mr. Eric Birch, Mr. Dean Renfro, Mr. Dale Favier</i>
What did you dream of growing-up to be as a child that would lead you to your work with FUSD?	<i>I always wanted to be a Baseball Coach. I have been coaching for 35 years.</i>
Since you've joined FUSD as staff, what experience(s) have you been most proud of?	<i>Seeing my daughter, Shaylynn, and my two sons, Jody and Kris, attend, graduate, and complete in athletics at Fohi. I am also proud of the hundreds of students/athletes that I have coached over the years. Thos relationships I value to this day.</i>
What keeps you up at night about your work for FUSD?	<i>Coaching keeps you up every night. This will be my first year as Head Varsity Coach in softball at Kaiser. I haven't found the found the shoes yet that are big enough to fill the job that Dick Bruich has done over the years. It was an honor and privilege to be his assistant the last few years at Kaiser. I owe him a lot.</i>
What do you think is the biggest misconception the public has about our work?	<i>That athletics is just an extra-curricular activity. The public and some of our peers do not see the number of hours each coach dedicates to his or his sport. Sometimes it is the only discipline or structure that a student/athlete has in his or her life.</i>

What can the community do to strengthen public education?	<i>Today, we have too many “latch key” kids running around with nothing to do. Not every kid is an athlete. We need to create new projects or give them new alternatives to keep them from the dark side.</i>
What inspires you to give your very best for the students of FUSD?	<i>Coaching and watching students/athletes come in as freshman and four years later emerge as young men and women in their senior year. Having them come back from college or years later as responsible citizens and knowing you had a little influence in their upbringing.</i>
What might staff or students be surprised to learn about you?	<i>I was a paratrooper in the 173^d Airborne Brigade in Vietnam and a millwright in the blast furnaces at Kaiser Steel for 12 years.</i>

If you know of a “Fontana Star,” particularly one who was an FUSD alumnus, you can nominate him or her to be featured by emailing webmaster@fUSD.net. Please provide your name, the name of the individual being nominated, contact information for both of you and a brief description as to why you think the individual qualifies as a Fontana Star.