



ST. EDWARD CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

April 24, 2026

Dave Archibald: Bio

Dave Archibald, a committed Catholic educator, brings a wealth of experience and success as he **begins his tenure as Dean of Athletics and Head Football Coach of the St. Edward Green Wave.**

Archibald's 23 years in education include 13 years in the classroom and 10 years in athletic administration. Archibald also holds a certification as a strength and conditioning coach from the NHSSCA and three master's degrees, two from Marquette University and one from the University of Notre Dame. He has served on the IHSA Football Advisory Committee and was the acting chair for the East Suburban Catholic Conference in its merger with the Chicago Catholic League from 2018-2024.

Along with five seasons as a high school assistant, Archibald began his football coaching career as an assistant coach at NCAA Division III Wisconsin Lutheran College in 2007, where he served as wide receivers coach and special teams coordinator until 2015. WLC grew from a 1-9 record in 2007 to .500 or above in five other seasons during that time.

In 2016 Archibald returned to high school football, where he served as assistant athletic director, head football coach, and offensive coordinator at Saint Viator until 2024. Saint Viator was emerging from a 1-8 season, and Archibald's impact was immediate as his 2016 team tied a now 50-year-old school best with a second-round playoff appearance in the IHSA 6A playoffs, and had a 6-5 overall record out of the East Suburban Catholic Conference. The team upset Boylan Catholic (8-1) in the first round. His 2017, 2022, and 2023 teams would also reach the playoffs, including another second-round appearance in 2023 - a season that included victories over Montini Catholic and Richmond-Burton (7-2) in the first round.

In the delayed 2020-2021 season, Archibald's team reached a MaxPreps top-50 ranking in Illinois, outscoring opponents 187-88, with their only loss to national power, Mount Carmel. The season did not include a playoff opportunity. In 2025 Archibald coached Brookfield Academy in Wisconsin, where his team qualified for the WIAA playoffs despite losing an all-conference quarterback in the first game of the season.

Archibald is a two-time recipient of the *Dave Mattio Outstanding Coach of the Year* award from the Chicago Catholic League/East Suburban Catholic Conference, as his teams posted a 24-12 record against opponents once in Saint Viator's CCL/ESCC division amidst his tenure (Benet, Carmel, DePaul, Marian Catholic, Marian Central Catholic, Marmion, St. Patrick). He has coached 16 athletes who have received NCAA Division I football opportunities and one current NFL player in Chicago Bears tight end, Cole Kmet, along with several others who have played NCAA Division II or III.

As a player, Archibald was a wide receiver for St. Norbert College where he amassed over 1,000 receiving yards in 2001-2002, and served as a team captain. St. Norbert went 17-3 in those seasons, including an NCAA Division III national playoff appearance in 2001. Archibald and his wife, Jennifer, have four children. They are members of Saint James parish in Arlington Heights.

Archibald said: "I am grateful for the opportunity to assume roles of leadership within the St. Edward community. Positivity within the building has been noteworthy, and I am excited for us to begin a strategic plan toward the future of the school. In football specifically, there is no shortcut to take a small program and suddenly make it competitive again. This is going to be a process of seasons that starts with increasing our numbers and getting high character football players in Chicagoland to join our community and embrace our mission. From there, our commitment to the weightroom and learning the game in detail are what can return the Green Wave to being formidable, now amidst the Chicagoland Christian Conference."

Coach Arch's impact:

"Coach Arch specializes in holistically developing his teams by fostering an environment where faith, academics, and football are each prioritized. His faith-guided leadership will not just create a winning program - it will also develop a culture of excellence that transforms athletes into men of character."

-Ben Konopka, OL – United States Military Academy West Point

“Coach Arch instilled the mindset of embracing being an underdog and wanting to outwork everybody. Without his mentorship and coaching, I would not be playing Power 4 football.”

-Patrick Bauer, LB – University of Cincinnati

“Coach Arch teaches the game the right way. He made me a better player and a better person off the field.”

-Michael Nix, WR – Butler University

“The coaching I received from Coach Arch as an offensive lineman jump started my career. He laid the groundwork for my understanding of the game for years to come.”

-Jeremiah Pittman, DL graduate – University of Iowa

“Having had many discussions while recruiting (Coach Arch’s) school, I always appreciated the detail and depth he went to in order to give every player a chance to reach their goals. He is a great coach, a better man, and someone I would want leading student-athletes.”

-Bart Miller, Offensive Line Coach – University of Illinois

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