



Ken Moore, President/CEO of Anahuac National Bank

My Lifelong Appreciation for Teachers & Coaches

In May, we pause to honor teachers and coaches across the country. A challenging profession at any time, teachers have had a tough couple of years yet continue to change lives every day. Their instruction may be virtual, in-person or a mixture of both but without a doubt, their passion and tireless efforts provide a much-needed sense of community and connection. Teacher Appreciation Week is our chance to say thank you to those who have played and continue to play such a vital role in all of our lives. Who doesn't have a fond memory of a teacher or coach who inspired us?

Growing up I never even thought of being a banker, I wanted to be an educator and coach. Active in sports all my life, even from my earliest years, sports programs and good coaching built a collaborative foundation and gave me direction. For me, it is easy to look back in appreciation of the many teachers and coaches that influenced my life. Under this supportive influence, my attitude towards education began to change and I began to realize my potential. I am thankful to this day for the caring guidance I received.

As a young, 19-year-old banker, I felt a strong commitment to give back to my community and wanted to have the same impact on young people that my coaches and teachers had on me. So, I decided to coach youth sports in my hometown of Desoto, Texas and faithfully continued to coach youth sports for the next 30 years.

In my opinion, coaching at a community level is one of the most important jobs that any community-minded individual could have. You are not only their coach but also their mentor. You are tasked with building the player's execution of the technical and fundamental skills of the game but to also show them what true leadership looks like. Instill confidence, show how to navigate times of adversity and how to be a great teammate, all while building resilience. Therefore, the environment you create, the way you communicate, your behavior and the way you conduct yourself as a coach or teacher, has huge implications on how you shape each and every athlete or student on your team or in your classroom. I remain in awe of those who chose this profession, those gifted teachers and coaches who make lasting contributions to the lives of others.

Community Bankers are much like these coaches / teachers. We counsel young couples and bank customers with sound financial advice. We fill key roles as trusted financial advisors, mentors, and philanthropists. Many times, we community bankers are there when no one else is. We provide the capital for small business; we reinvest local dollars back into the community and help create local jobs. Local reinvestment helps small businesses grow and helps families finance major purchases and build a future through financial security. Our relationship banking philosophy is ingrained in the way we conduct business, one loan—one customer—at a time.

You will find us community bankers coaching youth sports, sponsoring workshops, leading civic organizations, and spending hours offering our time and talents to help our communities thrive. And when you see us out in the community, thank a teacher or a coach for getting us there! I am always proud to say my wife and daughter are teachers and know firsthand the hard work and commitment involved. Teachers make all other professions possible. They leave a lasting impact on their students and instill a love of learning—the most appreciated gift you can give to a child and parents. Thank you, teachers and coaches, for inspiring and encouraging students, for touching hearts and shaping minds.

