As we celebrate Title IX, KIAAA recognizes

Lacey Keller who graduated from Palco High School, where she participated in volleyball, basketball, softball, scholars bowl, forensics, and KAYS. After high school, Lacey became a KSHSAA registered official right out of high school where she officiated for ten years. Lacey attended Colby Community College and Fort Hays State University where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. She earned her Master’s degree in Educational Leadership in 2021 from Emporia State University. While in high school, Lacey had a standout career, she was named most inspirational volleyball player her senior year; runner-up finisher and third at state with ASA softball. That team was also ninth in the nation. Currently, she serves as the athletic director and intervention specialist at Palco HS.

Lacey is married to Jeff Keller, and they have one child, Jamie, 16 years old. In her spare time, Mrs. Keller likes to work on the farm, watch the Kansas City Royals, and spend time with her family. She shares, “I enjoy the mentoring part of the educational business. I love to use the challenges as real life character building moments.”

Title IX impacted Lacey personally as her mom served as her role-model; her mom grew up in the era where women had very little opportunities to participate in sports and activities. “She is a great role model as she encourages me to always try new things. When I was in high school, I could count on my mom to be at the score table or even behind the plate calling the balls and strikes.”

Her advice is to do something out of your comfort zone each and every day; you will become a stronger leader and a better person.



