

Dr. Peter Vande Brake has been the Varsity Track & Field head coach at Potter's House High School since 2008. He attended high school in Bristol, Tennessee where he played football, baseball, basketball, and ran track. By the end of his high school career, he had settled on track and basketball as his primary sports of interest. He specialized as a decathlete and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in state, and 4<sup>th</sup> in nationals. After high school, Peter went on to attend Calvin College to earn a BA in philosophy and continued to pursue his interests in basketball and track, but decided to concentrate on track exclusively after his freshman year. He was a four-time All-American in the decathlon at Calvin placing as high as second place in the NCAA Division III National Meet in 1987. After college he went to Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia and then came back to Grand Rapids to pursue a Ph.D. at Calvin Theological Seminary in 1992.

Coach VandeBrake began working as an assistant track coach at Calvin College while working on his Ph.D. and coached the sprinters, hurdlers, and multi-event participants. He coached several All-American athletes and a few national champions including the national champion decathlete in 1996. He finished his Ph.D. in Systematic Theology in 2000, and has continued to coach track athletes at many different levels ever since.

Peter has been working at the Potter's House School since 2010 in some capacity, and he is now the curriculum director for K-12 and teaches Bible at the high school. He is married and has two daughters. One is in high school the other attends Baylor University and is studying to be a nurse. He lives in the Garfield Park neighborhood on the SE side of Grand Rapids.