



Kazunari Kawano

Principal
Kokushikan Senior High School and
Junior High School

Biography

Kazunari Kawano was born in Fukuoka Prefecture in 1944. He graduated in 1966 from the Faculty of Physical Education of Kokushikan University and joined the teaching staff of the Kokushikan Junior and Senior High Schools in the same year. In the Senior high school he instructed the Judo team.

In 1985, he founded the Junior High School Judo Team and served as its Manager for many years before being appointed General Manager for the Junior and Senior High School Judo Teams. Over the years, he has led many teams to first place in national championship tournaments. He has trained numerous first-class athletes who have won many medals in the Japan National Judo Championships, the World Judo Championships and in the Olympic Games.

In 1992, he was appointed Adviser to the All Japan High School Athletic Federation Judo Team.

In 2002, he assumed the post of Vice-Principal of Kokushikan Junior and Senior High Schools and has been serving as Principal since 2004. That same year, he was appointed to the Kokushikan Board of Council.

In 2007 he was appointed Chairman of the Kokushikan Sports Promotion Association.

The educational philosophy of Kokushikan is to cultivate the four virtues of sincerity, industriousness, insight, and spiritual strength by putting into practice the three principles of reading, experience, and reflection in thinking. These three principles correspond to what is now referred to as PDCA (that is, plan, do, check, action). Back in 1917, at the time of Kokushikan's establishment, our founder and predecessors had a vision way ahead of their time.

The six years spent in junior and senior high school are an important time in terms of developing a sound mind and body. Through the martial arts education that Kokushikan has consistently carried out, we aim to teach students the basics of behavior as human beings, in other words, how to interact with others and etiquette, and to foster a zest for living through training of the mind and body. However, this definitely should not be one-way. More than anything else, we believe it is important to teach students from their perspective in a warmhearted manner. If teachers themselves join their students and display an attitude of passionately tackling something, teachers and students can share the same feelings and time, and a sense of trust and strength to change the future will be created between them. The vitality of our students extends to various fields. As well as judo, synchronized swimming and soccer, sports in which we have produced Olympic athletes, we are proud of our sporting achievements in national tournaments. Moreover, our students have also excelled in cultural activities and received much praise. In addition to *shogi* (one of our students won the 1st and 2nd Ricoh Cup Ladies Ouza Tournament) and essay writing (another of our students received the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology's Encouragement Prize in the "My Opinion" essay contest), these cultural activities include the calligraphy club, brass band club, and art club.

Our junior high school implements small-group classes, and we also offer a variety of courses in such subjects as English conversation, environmental problems, and nursing care experience. In our senior high school full-time course, the first year is devoted to thorough development of the basic academic skills. From the second year onward, classes are offered with a view to increasing the ratio of students advancing to university. Students in the part-time and correspondence programs are able to attend lectures at Kokushikan University. By incorporating martial arts and art as a part of human education, we bring out the individual personalities of our students.

Junior and senior high school life is important as the first step in setting a direction for the future and approaching one's dreams. Through the knowledge acquired at Kokushikan and various experiences, we foster a sense of consideration toward others and a zest for life in students. Nothing is created without passion. With affection and passion, we make every effort and build an environment so that every student can fully display his or her abilities. That, I believe, is Kokushikan's role and mission.

The six years through junior and senior high school are an important time for growth of the mind and body as well as development of individuality and sensibility.

The Kokushikan junior and senior high schools focus not just on increasing academic ability, but "education of the heart" based on a unified junior-senior high school system.

The schools teach students etiquette, ethics, a moral outlook, and so forth and foster a "zest for living" which is needed in society.

Junior High School

Curriculum that improves basic academic abilities and incorporates moral education

Junior high school is an important time for forming the foundation of one's character and abilities. Our school engages in education with a thorough structure in an effort to greatly expand the individuality and abilities of each student, based on the comfortable educational environment of the unified junior and senior school system. The curriculum has been formulated taking into consideration the improvement of basic academic abilities and moral education. In particular, martial arts, calligraphy, and morality are incorporated into classes, and thus students can learn things ranging from etiquette to ethics, self-control, and cooperation. In order to respond to internationalization, the school is placing a focus on the study of English. Students move forward with English studies with the objective of passing the Grade Pre-2 "Eiken" Test in Practical English Proficiency. They acquire conversational abilities that can be put to practical use by taking part in English conversation classes with native Englishspeaking instructors.

Senior High School

Aiming to foster human resources who are needed by society

The three years through senior high school are an important time for development during which students find their intended path and acquire the abilities they need to achieve their goals. The school aims to boost the aptitude of each student and provide guidance on learning and living with the goal of nurturing education. Based on the fundamental abilities students have gained in junior high school, the senior high school develops a "zest for living" with physical strength, mental strength, and a sense of balance. A focus is placed on bringing out the characteristics and potential of each student. The school not only provides students with knowledge, but also creates an environment in which students think for themselves and grow, with the objective of fostering human resources who are needed by society.



Afternoon Course

■ Comprehensive

Flexible system in which students can also take correspondence program classes and university classes

This course features a two-semester, credit-based, class-based system with three years of daytime classes beginning at 13:00, five days a week. The program is based on the improvement of basic scholastic ability with a focus on English. It features a flexible system with a link to the correspondence program, which students can take. It also offers high school-university collaboration, which enables students to take first and second year courses at Kokushikan University.

Correspondence Course

■ Comprehensive
(AA Course, IC Course)

Two courses for students to choose from

The correspondence program features a credit-based system in which the academic year is divided into four semesters with credit approval carried out four times per year, and 74 credits or more are required for graduation. Students can choose one of two courses: the AA Course in which schooling is carried out in six-week periods, and the IC Course in which schooling is concentrated into a one-week period each semester and students can use the remaining free time for various activities such as sports activities, performing arts activities, and long-term volunteering activities. Thus, students are able to study at their own pace.

In the case of transfer students, depending on the number of credits they have acquired, it is possible for them to graduate in the same year as students at their previous school.

Full-Time Course

■ Comprehensive

Diverse course system that brings out the individuality of students

The Full-Time Course offers a diverse course system in which students can increase their aptitude and achieve their goals, and it features an abundant curriculum. During the first year, students thoroughly develop fundamental abilities, and during the second year, they choose from among four course paths that include humanities and sciences. Each course includes martial arts (judo and kendo) and the arts (music, visual art, and calligraphy) in the curriculum as part of human education. An after-school support program is also offered from Monday to Friday in order to further improve students' study skills.

