

## **Press Release**

### State championship coach Mike Williams hired to lead Davison Basketball program

Davison Community Schools is pleased to welcome six-time state championship basketball Coach Michael Williams to lead the Cardinal Boys' Basketball program.

Williams, who first led the Beecher Bucs basketball team to a state championship title in 2012, begins his duties this month at Davison. In addition to coaching, Williams will serve as a Dean of Students at Davison High School. Williams has served in leadership roles at Beecher the last two years as Coordinator of Culture (similar to the position of an assistant principal) and, most recently, as athletic director. He previously taught at Flint Northwestern for 18 years.

"Coach Williams has proven himself to be a man of great character and will be a tremendous addition to our staff," said Superintendent Kevin Brown.

"Mike has proven himself as a successful basketball coach and mentor," said Assistant Superintendent Matt Lobban. "I believe Mike will have a significant and positive impact on the lives of many Davison Community Schools' students in both his role as coach and as dean of students."

Athletic Director Dave Beamer said he is very excited to bring in a "guy with the experience and leadership" that Coach Williams has.

"He not only brings with him great coaching experience and leadership, but also great mentorship in our high school building that will help to build on our successful basketball program," Beamer said. "We are very happy to add Mike and his family to our Varsity Coaching family."

Williams has been a coach at Beecher for 19 years; two at the JV level and the remaining 17 at Varsity, succeeding his mentor and friend Coach Tony Holiday who led the Bucs to a state championship title in 1995.

Following a lackluster 3-18 first season, Williams had a team that was state championship runners-up by his fourth year on the job. During his tenure at Beecher, his record has included six state, 13 regional, 15 district and 12 conference championships.

“I have a love for the game,” said Williams, who played basketball and football in high school. “I have a love for the competition. For me, basketball is a reflection of life. I truly believe that through coaching you can save lives and help people thrive in life.”

Leaving Beecher will be very bittersweet for Williams, who said a new start is in order for his family as they grieve the loss of Williams’ father who, sadly, passed away in April 2020 from COVID.

“This is not a reflection on Beecher,” Williams said. “This has everything to do with my family and seeking peace after the loss of my father. It’s all about family.”

Williams earned his bachelor’s degree in English and physical education from Ferris State University and a master’s in educational leadership from Eastern Michigan University.

“I am very comfortable in maroon and gold,” Williams said, referring to Ferris and Davison sharing the same school colors. “I have always admired the Davison athletic program. I grew up competing against Davison and know what kinds of (competitive) kids are here. I look forward to getting the best out of them and giving them the best of me.”

Williams and his wife, Patrese, have a 6-year-old son. Williams also has a 15-year-old son from a previous relationship..

“I have a strong bond with them, just like I had a strong bond with my father,” he said.

In addition to spending time with his wife, sons and mother, Williams loves to cook, fish and golf.

“I am humbled but excited and ready to get to work,” he said about his new role. “I am excited about the potential of the program here and meeting the kids ... I am extremely grateful to the Beecher administration and board of education for the opportunity and support they gave me. I will miss the Beecher community but I have to do what is best for my family. It has been a joyous ride and I believe that I am walking away, leaving Beecher in a better place than when I got there.”

## **For more information**

### **Contact:**

Michelle Edwards

Director of Public Information

(810) 591-0852

[medwards@davisonschools.org](mailto:medwards@davisonschools.org)

