



# HIGHLAND ATHLETICS



Pending board approval, it is with great pleasure that we welcome Deryl Cunningham as the next Varsity Boys Basketball Coach at Highland High School. Coach Cunningham graduated from St. Joseph's High School where he played for the late Hall of Fame Coach, Gene Pingatore, and was named a McDonald's Parade All-American in 1989. He continued his basketball career playing at Kansas State University earning a degree in Public Relations, finished as the 7th all-time leading rebounder and played in the NCAA tournament for the Wildcats.

Coach Cunningham continued his education obtaining a Master of Science in Sport and Recreation from South Dakota State University while being a graduate assistant and eventually an assistant coach. He also served as an Assistant Basketball Coach at Indiana State University from 2008-2011, going to the NCAA tournament in the 2010-11 season.

Coach Cunningham's last collegiate assignment was at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville from 2011-2015 where he helped them transition from DII to DI. He recently was the Head Boys Basketball Coach at Gateway Legacy Christian Academy from 2015-2019.

Coach Cunningham is accomplished, dedicated, and performance focused and he will bring experience in coaching and mentoring.



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Pending board approval, it is with great pleasure that we welcome Tori Nelson as the next Varsity Girls Soccer Coach at Highland High School. Coach Nelson graduated from Marquette High School in Chesterfield, Missouri where she was an athlete. She also played over 10 years of club soccer before she continued her soccer career at Colorado Christian University.

Coach Nelson finished her education at Missouri State University in 2017 earning a degree in education with a focus on middle school science. Coach Nelson works full time at Hazelwood West Middle School in Hazelwood, Missouri.

Coach Nelson is a natural leader with a passion for soccer and empowering young women through athletics.