

CRCSD Announces New Activities Director for Jefferson High School

The Cedar Rapids Community School District and Jefferson High School are pleased to announce that, pending Board approval, Derek Dixon has been selected as the next Jefferson Activities Director, effective July 1. Dixon will succeed Chris Deam, who is departing the district to accept a new position with the Pleasant Valley School District.

Mr. Dixon is a familiar face within the Jefferson community, having served the school for the past six years. He brings 13 years of experience in education to the role, beginning his career as a 7–12 Social Studies teacher and coach in both rural and urban settings. His diverse leadership background includes serving as Assistant Activities Director and Instructional Coach/Lead, where he maintained a steadfast focus on student growth.

"It's clear from the moment you meet Derek that he is a J-Hawk through and through," said Jefferson Principal Sam Hostetler. "He deeply cares about this community and everything it stands for. What excites me most is that Derek will be an Activities Director for all of our students. He brings the same passion and commitment to the arts as he does to athletics. I believe that will make a real difference for our students, staff, and families."

Derek's vision for the future of Jefferson activities is rooted in inclusivity and resilience. Under his leadership, the department will strive to ensure every student finds a place to belong, whether on the field, on the stage, or in the classroom.

"I'm incredibly excited and humbled to be chosen to lead this important work for our Jefferson community," shared Mr. Dixon. "My vision is simple: Together We Soar: Every J-Hawk, Every Day, Whatever it Takes. We aren't just tasked with building better athletes or performers; we are building resilient J-Hawks who will soar beyond their highest potential."

To ensure a seamless transition for students and staff, Derek will collaborate closely with outgoing director Chris Deam throughout the spring semester.

Please join the Cedar Rapids Community School District and Jefferson High School in welcoming Derek Dixon to this new leadership role.