



Contact: Ryan Burns, Director of Communications
(573) 659-3018, ryan.burns@jcschools.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2021

JC Schools Announces New JCHS Activities Director and Head Football Coach

JEFFERSON CITY - **Jefferson City School District** today announced that Damon Wells, an experienced high school administrator and successful football coach, will join the Jefferson City School District as the Activities Director and Head Football Coach at Jefferson City High School.

Wells previously served as the assistant principal/athletic director and head football coach at Rifle High School in Rifle, Colorado. As head coach, Wells tallied a record of 118-35, won seven conference championships, and never experienced a losing season. His team competed in the state title game four times and set 12 Colorado High School Athletic Association all-time records. He also served as the football team's defensive coordinator as it won the 2004 3A state championship in Colorado.

Wells was honored as the six-time Western Slope League Coach of the Year, receiving the distinction in 2019, 2018, 2014, 2012, 2011, and 2006. He was also recognized as the Denver Broncos Coach of the Week in 2019 and 2012.

"We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to our top candidate, who will bring a wide range of experience to JCHS," said **Ehren Earleywine, Jefferson City School District Director of Activities**. "In addition to his coaching credentials, Damon Wells' background as an assistant principal and athletics director will ensure he is well-positioned to step into a leadership role for our activities program."

"As a longtime coach, teacher, and administrator, I'm excited to bring a unique set of skills, passion, and experience to Jefferson City High School as its AD and head football coach," **Damon Wells** said. "I know firsthand how a football team is a major source of pride and excitement not only for the high school, but the community at-large. I look forward to leading Jays Football, which has a meaningful history, and ensuring student success on and off the field."

Before his success at Rifle High School, Wells was the varsity football offensive coordinator at his high school alma mater, Cypress Lake High School in Fort Myers, Florida. In just two seasons, he helped turn around the team from a 1-19 record to a winning season. Wells also coached high school baseball for nine years and played both intercollegiate baseball and football.

Among his long list of former student-athletes, Wells has coached students who have attended Harvard and played inter-collegiately at Boise State, University of Colorado, and more. In total, Rifle football players have competed in eight different NFL stadiums in the past decade. Wells has been referenced in numerous pieces of football literature and receives invitations to speak at clinics regularly.

Wells will replace the current JCHS Activities Director Chad Rizner, who announced this fall that he would be stepping away from the activities role to return to the classroom as a social studies teacher.

###