



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PLANO ISD NAMES PLANO EAST SENIOR HIGH'S NEXT ATHLETIC COORDINATOR AND HEAD FOOTBALL COACH



PLANO, TX, JANUARY 26, 2022 – At last night's work session of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees, Tony Benedetto was approved as Plano East Senior High School's new athletic coordinator and head football coach. Benedetto, who is in his third year as athletic coordinator and head football coach at Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas ISD, has demonstrated significant success in a very short time. Since joining the team at Woodrow in 2019, he has turned the team around and led the Wildcats to a winning record and two playoff appearances while growing overall student participation

in both the men's and women's athletics program by more than 30 percent. Benedetto was named Dallas ISD's 2020-2021 Athletic Coordinator of the Year.

Prior to his move to Woodrow Wilson High School, Benedetto served as special teams coordinator at Poteet High School in Mesquite ISD as well as assistant head football coach and offensive coordinator at Spruce High School in Dallas ISD. He was honored in 2016 as Dallas ISD's Secondary Teacher of the Year while serving as a biology teacher and science department lead teacher at Spruce High School.

Coach Benedetto holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Sioux Falls in South Dakota as well as a Master of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington. Benedetto played collegiately in the NCAA Division II with the University of Sioux Falls, where he was a three-time Academic All-American. During his four seasons at Sioux Falls, the

Cougars were 47-5 and won two national championships.

“We could not be more excited to welcome Coach Benedetto and his family to Plano East and Plano ISD. We know he will have an immediate impact with our kids, parents and community,” said Plano ISD Athletic Director Jeff Smith. “When anyone meets Coach Benedetto, they will quickly see his passion for young people and athletics. As a third year head football coach, he has already shown the ability to build a high quality program that is successful on and off the field. As we move forward together, we look forward to supporting Coach Benedetto as he now leads our Plano East Panthers!”

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About Plano Independent School District

The Plano Independent School District (Plano ISD) (www.pisd.edu) endeavors to foster the highest level of student learning. Plano ISD is located 20 miles north of Dallas, Texas and serves the residents of approximately 100 square miles in southwest Collin County, including 66 square miles in the city of Plano, northern portions of the cities of Dallas and Richardson and parts of the cities of Allen, Parker and Murphy. Plano ISD employs more than 7,000 staff members who serve more than 50,000 students in 72 schools and 11 service facilities. Mission: Our Plano ISD learning community will educate, inspire and empower every student to activate their unique potential in a dynamic world.