

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RON GLODICH JOINS AUSTIN CATHOLIC ATHLETIC DEPT.

MHSAA Hall of Fame Coach Looking to Build Programs as Athletic Coordinator

CHESTERFIELD, MICH. – Austin Catholic High School administration officially announced today that Mr. Ron Glodich will assume the duties of Athletic Coordinator in addition to his current role as physics teacher. Working closely with Athletic Director, Jim Baker, this position focuses on the scheduling, monitoring, and planning for athletic programs. With two state football championships, multiple division and district championships in basketball, baseball and volleyball to his credit; Glodich brings not only experience but the drive to build programs at the young school.

“I am thrilled to have Ron to work with and to help build the athletic programs. His knowledge and experience of sports from all angles, and his relationship with the sports community is an invaluable asset for Austin, our coaches and our students,” said Baker.

With growing curriculum and administrative duties for Baker, who is also the Assistant Principal/Dean of Academics, the Administration and Board made a commitment to dedicating resources, including staffing, for athletics and STEM at the December Board meeting in accordance with the school’s master strategic plan.

Glodich will be directly engaged with coaches’ development, game scheduling and supervision, and developing long-range athletic department goals and plans including off-season and summer programs for student athletes. Austin is in phase two of a \$12 million capital campaign to renovate and develop the current school campus. Expanding the current elementary gym into a full athletic center along with sports fields are slated soon for the 9-year old school. Currently, Austin offers 12 varsity sports, 1 J.V. program and will add dance/poms and softball this spring.

Retiring after 33 years as a teacher and coach of various sports at Marine City High School, Glodich also a proud husband and father, wasn’t ready to hang up his clipboard. He joined the Austin staff in September, teaching physics, while coaching his final season as head football coach for the strong Mariner program. *“We had discussions early on with Ron, regarding athletic*

coordinator and possibly coaching, but respected his focus on his final season with the Mariner Football team,” said Baker.

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“Austin was very appealing to me because of an opportunity to help build an athletic program from its early stages, something very few coaches get to do. I also have great faith in the administrative team and what they are trying to build,” said Glodich. “I’m impressed by what Mike and now Jim have done in such a short time. The possibilities are great moving forward.”*

Glodich started as a JV coach shortly after being hired by Marine City in 1987 and has coached volleyball, basketball and baseball, among other sports around the area. His time as offensive coordinator for the team posted solid seasons and in 2012, he assumed the head-coaching position. Over his career the Mariners racked up multiple playoff appearances, three trips to the MHSAA finals and two division IV state titles (2007 & 2013). Glodich was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2018 and was selected as a MHSAA Regional Football Coach of the Year during his final season.

*Mike Miller, Austin athletic director 2013-2018, passed away in 2019 from pancreatic cancer. Glodich and Miller were both coaches in Marine City.

About Austin Catholic High School:

Austin Catholic High School is a co-ed comprehensive high school serving young men and women of all faiths in northern Macomb County. Opened in 2011, Austin aims to cultivate healthy and resourceful students for college and beyond. Committed to educating the whole person-- mind, body and spirit in a strong faith community founded in Augustinian pedagogy. Austin offers something for everyone. Our highly qualified instructors and dedicated staff see every child as a blessing and the small class sizes make each student a name, not a number. Austin Catholic: Minds to Lead – Hands to Serve – Hearts to Love.

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