



THE SAVANNAH COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Kef L. Wilson, Head of School

Dear Country Day Community,

I am pleased to announce the appointment of James Franklin as Savannah Country Day's next Director of Athletics and Physical Education. James brings twenty-five years of experience in athletic coaching and administration and a proven track record of success in building successful athletic programs. For the last nine years, he has served as the Director of Athletics at The O'Neal School in Pinehurst, North Carolina. As a result of his leadership, they earned recognition as the number one athletic program in the state in three of the last four years in their classification.



Prior to joining The O'Neal School, James spent two decades coaching soccer at highly respected collegiate institutions, including Vassar College, Norwich University, the University of Vermont, and Saint Michael's College, and was the Director of Coaching at two youth club organizations. A native of Staffordshire, England, James moved to the United States in 1994 to attend and play soccer for Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont.

In addition to his roles as an administrator and coach at both the collegiate and independent school levels, his experience in evaluating, recruiting, and retaining quality coaches and staff, coupled with his experience in fundraising, facilities, and collegiate recruiting, will help to enhance and grow our school's athletic program. The administrators, coaches, parents, and alumni who met James during the interview process were impressed by his communication skills, his strategic vision for building a successful athletic program and strong athletic culture, and his warmth and sense of humor.

"I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to lead Country Day's athletic department. It was a pleasure meeting the student-athletes, parents, coaches, and administration, and I was impressed by the enthusiasm for athletics demonstrated during my campus visit," states James Franklin. "I will work tirelessly to ensure that our department continues its strong tradition of integrity and excellence while positioning our student-athletes and teams to reach the highest level of competitive excellence."

James plans to visit campus in the next few weeks, and I know you will join me in giving him and his family a warm Country Day welcome.

In related news, I have received more than 30 applications for our head football opening, have conducted a number of preliminary interviews, and will invite candidates for on-campus interviews beginning next week.

Sincerely,

Kef L. Wilson
Head of School