



**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact:**

Donnie Newton, 843-852-2516

## Media Release

### **West Ashley High welcomes new head men's basketball coach**

*Benjamin Snyder joins the Wildcats as the head men's basketball coach after a successful run in North Carolina*

**West Ashley High School**

**Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Karolyn Belcher**  
Chief Academic Officer

**Anita Huggins**  
Executive Director,  
Secondary Learning Community

**Ryan Cumback, Ed.M.**  
Principal

**Charleston, SC** – West Ashley High has named Benjamin Snyder, a four-time Conference Coach of the Year, as its next head men's basketball coach. After a successful run as the head coach at Pinecrest High School in Southern Pines, NC, Snyder is now officially a Wildcat.

"We are extremely excited to have Coach Snyder take over the men's basketball program here at West Ashley High," said Athletic Director Jeff Fipps. "He brings a wealth of experience and success that will only enhance the success of the men's basketball program."

Snyder served as the head men's basketball coach at Pinecrest for the past nine seasons. With a record of 148 - 45, he guided the program to five straight 20-plus win seasons, two conference championships, and two conference tournament titles. His teams also had success in the state playoffs making four appearances in the Sweet 16, two in the Elite 8, and one Final Four. While there, Snyder named a Conference Coach of the Year three times.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to become the next men's basketball coach at West Ashley High School," said Snyder. "The basketball tradition that Coach DuPre built over the past two decades excites me. I cannot wait to continue and build on this tradition of excellence. Our staff and student-athletes will bring an enthusiasm, focus, and work ethic that makes our school and community proud. I cannot wait to meet our current and future Wildcats as we begin this journey together. My family loves the Charleston area and we are looking forward to becoming Wildcats."

Having attended Plymouth High School in Plymouth, IN from 1998 - 2002, Snyder played under Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Coach Jack Edison.

While studying at the post-secondary level, Snyder was a National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) Runner-up at Grace College where he played under Coach Jim Kessler. He was named Rookie of the Year in 2003 and served as Captain during the 2005 - 2006 season.

While at Grace, he earned a Bachelor of Science, Physical Education, and Health in K-12 with a coaching endorsement. Snyder was also named a two-time National Association of Intercollegiate Association (NAIA) All American. He earned his Masters in Sports Management through American Public University in 2009 where he graduated with honors.

Snyder began his coaching career in 2006 at Carroll High School in Fort Wayne, IN where he served as the men's varsity assistant coach. He ended the season with a 17-7 record before moving to Oregon-Davis High School in Hamlet, IN where he became the men's varsity coach.

He returned to Plymouth in 2008 and served as the men's varsity assistant coach for two years.

In 2010, Snyder assumed head coach responsibilities at Caston High School in Fulton, IN where he helped the team earn back-to-back Midwest Conference Championships and was named the Conference Coach of the Year in 2011.

"Coach Snyder has a proven history of excellence on the court," said West Ashley High Principal Ryan Cumback. "We are extremely excited to have Coach Snyder join the West Ashley Community and look forward to watching our program continue to grow under his leadership."

Snyder began his teaching career in 2006 as a physical education teacher at Perry Hill Elementary. He has since worked at Oregon-Davis Elementary, Plymouth High, and Caston High where he served as a PE, Health, and Weightlifting teacher.

Snyder's career in athletics closely mirrors that of his father's. Originally from Granger, IN, his family moved around a lot when he was a kid because his father was a high school and college basketball coach. Snyder has been married for 15 years to Lauren Snyder and they have three children (Grace, Ella, and Madelyn).

For more information, please contact WAHS Public Relations Coordinator Donnie Newton at (843) 852-2516.

### **Photo Captions**

**West Ashley High welcomes new head men's basketball coach Benjamin Snyder (01)**

Plymouth, IN native Benjamin Snyder join West Ashley High as the head men's basketball coach. He was named Coach of the Year three times while at Pinecrest High School.

**West Ashley High welcomes new head men's basketball coach Benjamin Snyder (02)**

Snyder served as the head men's basketball coach at Pinecrest High for the past nine years. During that time, he guided the program to two conference championships, four Sweet 16, two Elite 8, one Final Four, five straight 20+ win seasons, and two Conference Tournament Championships. Snyder is also a three-time Coach of the Year.

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**About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally-accredited school district that is committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 87 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.