



Phillip Thompson Named MHSAA SEC White Division Basketball Coach of the Year



JACKSON, Mich. (March 3, 2026) — Jackson Public Schools (JPS) is proud to announce that **Phillip Thompson** has been named the **MHSAA SEC White Division Basketball Coach of the Year**. In his first year coaching at JPS, Thompson led the Jackson High School Boys Basketball program to an extraordinary season, earning both the **SEC White Division Conference Championship** and the **District Championship**.

From day one, Thompson expressed confidence that the program was ready for a breakthrough, pointing to a strong mix of young players with varsity experience and steady senior leadership. He also highlighted the passion and effort he saw in practice, setting the tone for a season built on consistent preparation, toughness, and belief.

Thompson, the son of two former basketball players, has emphasized throughout the season that court confidence can translate far beyond athletics. His message to student-athletes has been consistent: use the lessons of competition to prepare for life after graduation, whether students go “pro or go corporate,” and wherever their paths lead.

“Culture wins championships, and I am indebted to the work ethic and buy-in of our players this season. Without their effort and focus, none of these achievements would be possible. They have made me a better coach, and I hope these lessons of competitive greatness stick with them for the rest of their lives.” Thompson said.

Chris Hoover, Athletic Director for Jackson Public Schools, shared his enthusiasm, *“We are grateful for the passion, integrity, and positive leadership Coach Thompson brings to our school community and are excited about the continued growth of our program under his direction. Congratulations to Coach Thompson and our student-athletes on a tremendous season.”*

Jackson Public Schools congratulates **Coach Thompson** and the **JHS Boys Basketball** team on a championship season and thanks them for representing the district with pride, excellence, and integrity.