



**St. John's High School**  
**Jermaine Joyner, Principal**  
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## Media Release



**Paul Hamilton**  
Head Football Coach and Athletic Director

### **St. John's High School Names Four-Time Collegiate Head Coach Paul Hamilton to Lead Athletics**

**Johns Island, SC (March 30, 2026)** - St. John's High School announces the appointment of Coach Paul Hamilton as Head Football Coach and Athletic Director, effective July 1.

Coach Hamilton brings more than 40 years of football experience, including leadership roles at the NCAA Division I and Division II levels and head coaching positions at four collegiate programs. Throughout his career, he has built competitive programs, developed high-performing offenses, and mentored student-athletes who have succeeded both on the field and in the classroom.

Hamilton served as head coach at East Tennessee State University, where he became the third-winningest coach in program history and set the school record for Southern Conference victories. His teams earned national rankings, defeated multiple top-20 opponents, and secured a historic win over No. 1-ranked Georgia Southern.

At Brevard College, Hamilton led the launch of a new football program and guided its transition into NCAA Division II competition, delivering the program's first winning season and first NCAA victory. His teams consistently ranked among the top rushing offenses in the nation and set multiple program records.

Most recently, at Kentucky State University, Hamilton helped engineer one of the most significant turnarounds in Division II football, improving the team by seven wins in a single season. His offense ranked among the top 10 nationally in multiple categories and set school records for scoring, total yards, and rushing production.



At the Division I level, Hamilton coached at the United States Air Force Academy, where he helped lead nationally ranked teams and coached a quarterback who finished in the top 10 in Heisman Trophy voting. He later served at Georgia Tech in a player personnel and offensive analyst role, contributing to recruiting strategy and roster development at the Power Five level.

Across his career, Hamilton has coached multiple All-Americans and National Player of the Year finalists, while his teams have consistently excelled academically, producing Academic All-Americans and record-setting team GPAs.

“Coach Hamilton’s experience speaks for itself,” said Superintendent Anita Huggins. “He has led programs at every level of college football and has a proven track record of building teams, developing young men, and creating a culture of accountability and excellence. We are excited about what his leadership will bring to St. John’s High School.”

“Coach Hamilton understands what it takes to build a strong, disciplined program,” said Principal Jermaine Joyner. “His ability to develop both athletes and leaders will have a lasting impact on our school and our students.”

“I’m honored to join the St. John’s High School community,” said Hamilton. “This is a program with pride and potential. I look forward to building a culture centered on hard work, accountability, and opportunity for every student-athlete.”

Hamilton holds a Master of Education from The Citadel and a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from Appalachian State University.

Coach Hamilton and district leaders will host all families in grades 5–12 zoned for Johns Island athletics for dinner and a meet-and-greet beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2026, in the St. John’s High School cafeteria.

His appointment marks an important step forward for St. John’s athletics, with a focus on building a competitive program while continuing to support the academic and personal growth of student-athletes.

For more information, please contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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#### **About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all 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 approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.