

# Coach Morrison's Basketball Philosophy

Everyone who plays for us will play with **GUTS**. They will Give 100%. Understand their role, Trust in their abilities, and Support their Teammates. In order to coach to this philosophy, my assistant coaches and I will first, and foremost, be teachers. We will teach the value of hard work, commitment, and dedication. We will teach the strategies that will enable our Teams to have a chance to win each game. We will teach the fundamentals needed in order to compete on a championship level. We will teach the importance of Teamwork.

Our Teams will be competitive because we have taught the basic fundamentals needed to help all players reach their potential. Practices will involve individual skills every day. With sound fundamentals, we will not beat ourselves. We want our opponents to have to beat us by playing better than us. We will teach each player how they fit into the Team concept. All players will understand their role as we, the coaches, see it. Practices will be very intense. We will not get beat because we are not in shape. Practices will develop a competitive attitude. Our players will want, and expect, to win every time they set foot on the floor.

Defense wins championships. Our Teams will utilize a multiple defense strategy. We will use a combination of presses, man-to-man, and zone defenses. We will make other Teams adjust to what we are doing defensively. By keeping our opponent's offense guessing, we will be able to take them out of their game plan. I believe all defenses share the same principles. We must teach zone and man-to-man principles that will be used in every defense. From year to year, our defensive strategy will change to fit the type of Team we have.

Offense begins with fundamentals and ends with execution. Players must have the skills to perform the task at hand. Once they have the skills, repetition will be used to give players the confidence needed to execute the offenses in a game situation. Offensive strategy is only as good as the skills possessed.

Communication is vital to a Team's success. We will communicate as coaches to assure that we are teaching the same philosophies. We will communicate with players on what we expect from each individual. Players will communicate with each other on the floor. We will communicate with parents and the community to help build support for the program. Open lines of communication are needed to prevent any misunderstandings.

Finally, each player will leave our program with confidence and the experiences needed to succeed in life after basketball. They will have learned the value of hard work, dedication, communication, and Teamwork. They will experience the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. They will have developed better relationships with their Teammates, coaches, and parents. And they will have the pride associated with participating in a quality high school basketball program.

**"It is the nature of man to rise to greatness if greatness is expected of him."**

- John Steinbeck