

Williams resigns from Prairie wrestling

Written by Metro Sports Report

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Cedar Rapids Prairie wrestling coach Blake Williams announced Monday that he will be leaving the College Community School District effective at the end of the school year.

Williams, who also teaches elementary Physical Education, informed his wrestling team Monday that he was leaving after 12 years to take a teaching position with the Solon Community School District.

Under Williams' direction the Prairie wrestling program has seen a lot of success, as indicated by its consistent finish in the top five of the state traditional tournament in the past four years as well as nine appearances in the state dual team tournament during his 12 years.

Williams accumulated a 253-57 record, including 104-14 in the MVC. He also coached 51 state medal winners, including four state champions.

"Having the chance to teach and coach in the Solon School District where my kids attend and my wife works was an opportunity I could not pass up," said Williams. "This was the most difficult decision I have made in my professional career due to the outstanding support I have received from _____ Prairie. The students, athletes, administrators, staff and the entire Prairie community have been amazing."

Prior to coming to Prairie, Williams started his coaching career as an assistant at Center Point-Urbana before earning his first head coaching position at Solon High School where he took the Spartans to their first state dual appearance.

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"I have nothing but gratitude for Blake and what he has done for College Community School District as an educator and our head wrestling coach," said Activities Director Rocky Bennett. "He has done a lot of great things for our kids and I wish him the best of luck as he transitions into the school district with the rest of his family. He will be missed."

The search for a wrestling coach will begin immediately.