

A NEW CHAPTER IN EAST HIGH BASEBALL HEAD COACH JUSTIN DENHAM TAKES THE LEAD



Story/G.Cook and O.Franklin

Illustration/T. Davis



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After 27 years of coaching, East baseball head coach Brain Luft has retired and the new coach, Justin Denham, has stepped up. Denham has many goals for both the team and his players.

Where have you previously coached?

"I've coached most of our current East High players through their youth development system at Grandview Little League. A lot of my coaching experience comes from some of those younger age levels. Some of the first kids that I started coaching when they were seven, eight and nine years old are now sophomores and juniors," Denham said.

Did you play any baseball growing up?

"I made the East high baseball team as a sophomore and was on the varsity team, sophomore, junior and senior year and graduated in 2006. So, I played for Coach Luft for three of those years," Denham said.

What inspired you to coach?

"I'm a baseball lifer, baseball's just always been one of my things. I started coaching when my son was three or four years old at Grandview Little League. So, I've coached him for the last 10 years," Denham said.

What are your goals?

"Competition-wise, I think we could win our conference this year. I think that we should immediately be competitive against Lincoln, Roosevelt, Hoover, North, and all the rest of the schools in our conference. And I think if you asked any of our varsity team, they'd be right on board with me on that one," Denham said.

How important is having a good relationship with your players to you?

"That's the only important thing, right? As a coach, as a leader, if I can't relate to you and create those relationships and create that trust and that bond with my players. You know, you just don't get the production And so, creating those relationships day one was the most important thing during Little League and so now we get to step in and just continue strengthening those relationships and it's going to show. From the production on the baseball field, I can't wait for Monday to show everybody what the new squad looks like," Denham said.