

COUGARS ANNOUNCE NEW HEAD BOYS BASKETBALL COACH

Jim Maley has been named head boys basketball coach at James B. Conant High School, effective with the 2017-2018 season. Maley takes over the program from long-time head coach Tom McCormack, who is retiring after 33 years as head coach, 32 years at Conant High School. McCormack has a 576-342 (.627 winning pct.) all-time record, including 13 seasons with 20-plus wins, and his teams have made two "Elite 8" appearances, and have five Mid-Suburban League titles.



"In looking for a new coach, we knew we had very big shoes to fill," said Conant High School Principal Julie Nowak. "Coach Maley brings a combination of expertise, a proven record of success and most importantly a tremendous sense of passion and dedication to his players and the game. He is a modern, thinking man's coach who is as cerebral as he is athletic. He is exactly what we were looking for to lead our boys basketball program."

Maley, who also will teach physical education at Conant High School, has been the head varsity coach at St. Laurence High School (Burbank, Ill.) for the past three years, posting a 41-49 mark. During that time, his Vikings delivered the school's first winning season in 10 years, and won more games than the team had in the previous six seasons and more Chicago Catholic League games than the previous 10 years combined. Prior to that, Maley spent three years (2011-2014) as head varsity coach at Kenwood Academy, taking the team to contenders in the Chicago Public League Red (top) Division and posting a 46-34 record. More importantly, he put an academic program in place, helping his players increase GPAs while decreasing school absences. Maley also spent two years as a sophomore coach at the school (2009-2011). He began his coaching career at Glenbard West High School (Glen Ellyn, Ill.), serving as freshman coach (2008-2009) and varsity assistant coach (2007-2008).

"Conant High School is very excited to welcome Jim Maley as the new head boys basketball coach," commented CHS Athletic Director John Kane. "Coach Maley is aware of the great basketball tradition that has been built by retiring Hall of Fame Coach Tom McCormack. The Conant High School family will certainly miss Coach McCormack, but we also look forward to a new era of basketball under the guidance of Coach Maley. Jim is known for both his coaching prowess and his ability to use basketball as a tool to make his athletes better students and community members. He has shown the ability to impact very diverse groups of students, and we're excited about the mark he'll make at Conant High School."

Maley played basketball for one season at Northwestern University, starting 11 games as a freshman. He earned his bachelor's degree in sociology from the College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, Mass.), and his master's degree in teaching from Concordia

University (River Forest, Ill.). In high school, Maley was a three-time all-conference and two-time conference player-of-the-year in the West Suburban Silver, helping his Lyons Township High School (La Grange, Ill.) squad to a state final four finish in 2001 and being named to the all-tournament team.