

# LEE COUNTY SCHOOLS MEDIA RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Chris Cherry Named Head Basketball Coach at Southern Lee High School

Hans Lassiter, principal of Southern Lee High School, announced today that Chris Cherry will join the staff of the school as a teacher and as head basketball coach for the Cavaliers.

In announcing Cherry's hiring, Lassiter emphasized the importance of a balance of instruction and athletics at the high school. Lassiter commented, "I am thrilled we have a quality certified teacher who can help us with our athletic program." Cherry has 10 years of teaching experience in business education and as a high school tutor.

In continuing to assemble his teaching and athletic staff, Lassiter announced plans to place both Cherry and veteran Lee County Schools teacher and coach Lou Layton in the positions of associate athletic directors. According to Lassiter, "For the inaugural year, Cherry and Layton will share athletic director responsibilities through their roles as associate athletic directors."

Cherry comes to Lee County Schools from Plymouth High School where he has served as a business education teacher and head varsity boys basketball coach since 1999. While at Plymouth High School in Washington County (NC), Cherry amassed an impressive winning record going 113-22 in five seasons. His teams won three conference regular season championships (2002, 2004 & 2005), won three consecutive conference tournaments (2003-05), and won three consecutive sectional championships (2002-04). In addition to strong local play, Cherry's teams made three consecutive regional appearances (2002-04), won one regional championship (2002), and made an appearance in the state 1-A 2002 championship game in 2002.

Cherry has been honored for his accomplishments by the *Washington Daily News* as the Coach of the Year on three consecutive occasions.

In addition to his experience with Plymouth High School, Cherry taught and coached at Creswell High School and Columbia Middle/High School.

Cherry received his B.S. in business administration at Livingstone College and completed his teacher licensure at Elizabeth City State University. Cherry and his wife, Shawnda, have two daughters.

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