

Ed-Co Alumni

Jason Diers - Class of 1996

Written by Addy Kirby



Leading by example, Jason Diers graduated from Ed-Co in the class of 1996. Jason is making his mark on the lives of many every day in the classroom, on the court, and the field. Jason is currently a high school special education teacher as well as a football and basketball coach. After high school, Jason went straight to Loras college for four years. He got his first teaching job in the Bellevue School District in 2001. Jason then spent many years teaching in the Cedar Rapids School District. He is currently in his 20th year as an educator and teaches and coaches in the Anamosa School District. Jason currently resides in Colesburg with his son, Vince. When asked why he chose to stay in his hometown he replied, "I chose to live in the Colesburg area because of the simplicity it offers. There is no hustle and bustle like in metropolitan areas and the cost of living is much less. The area also offers a great deal of outdoor activities and scenic beauty." Jason got where he is today by the experiences he had as a younger student. Those experiences and having good teachers throughout his education at Ed-Co led him to have a solid grasp of knowing that he wanted to be a coach and educator in high school. His favorite part about Ed-Co was, "I have so many memories of being a student at Ed-Co. Athletics are probably the number one memory... all of the relationships made with coaches, teammates, and even with players on opposing teams. A lot of those people are still friends today. Also, spending a lot of time in the old weight room in the lower hall is a good

memory. I also have a lot of memories of school events such as homecoming, school dances, and hanging out in the commons before school and in between classes. Going to volleyball and basketball games were really fun... I would say 80% of the study body attended games back then." The advice Jason would give to current high school students is, "Don't be influenced by others...stay true to yourself. Also, it is totally ok to be a "try-hard." Over the course of teaching for 20 years, all of the kids who were called "try-hards" are very successful people (tradespeople, doctors, businessmen/women, farmers, etc.). If someone calls you a "try-hard," they are threatened by you! You will definitely fail many times in life...don't beat yourself up over it! Lastly, leadership is lonely sometimes." Jason Diers, the true definition of an Ed-Co Viking is going beyond the classroom to reach his goals and touch the lives of many. Another successful Viking doing things the Viking way!