

Progress 3: CHS hires news activities director

By Nick Moffitt Digital Content Editor | Posted: Friday, September 18, 2015 10:21 am

CLINTON — Justin Remington is starting to settle into his new job as Clinton High School activities director.

He said now that the first few weeks of school are starting to settle down he has a chance to breathe, but every day is a new adventure for Remington.

"I'm busy almost every single minute of the day not only through athletics but also with activities, with teachers. Since I'm on the admin team for the high school I'm working with classroom teachers and evaluating classroom teachers," he said.

That's just one new part of the job for Remington, but more interaction with students and teachers is a positive to him.

"It's great to get the students back, that's why we go into the profession is for students... I think the best part has been getting the clubs and activities running, we've been practicing fall sports for about a month, but it's good to get the other students back and to get the drama and music back up and running," he said.

Remington's background includes pretty extensive experience in high school athletics. He's a Holden, Missouri native who spent the last four years there serving as the activities director. Previously he served as the Dixon High School boy's basketball coach from 2008-2011.

His dreams of going into education started early and had a strong tie to athletics, Remington said one person in particular had a big impact on his career choice.

"I have a passion for just athletics in general and I went into this profession to be a teacher and a coach because I had a great basketball coach who inspired me and I wanted to be like him," he said. "He was a great role model for me and I wanted to coach and teach because of it."

During his time as a physical education teacher Remington also received two other degrees, a master's degree that allows him to serve as a building principal and an educational specialist degree, which gives him a superintendent endorsement.

Despite that, Remington previously told the *Herald* he was in Clinton for the long haul.

"Long term, Clinton is where I want to be," he said.

Clinton High School Principal JR Kuch told the *Herald* that Remington really cares about the kids he works with.

"He has a passion for kids, and that was the main thing, that students had to come first," Kuch said. "Everything was centered on making them better in the classroom, the field and even the band room. He has a lot of ideas, and it's not just ideas. It's been put in practice before."

Now that he has settled in, one of Remington's ideas for Clinton High School should be completed in the next few weeks.

"One goal is that we're working on the new athletic website here for Clinton High and I'm hoping to have that rolled out by the first of October," he said.

The website is being designed by a company that has in the past worked for Division I universities and Remington said the website will enable more and better communication between Clinton High and kids, parents and others in the community.

"It's going to be awesome," he said. "It will be a great communication tool to get information out to parents, kids, patrons in the community. I think it's really going to be awesome."

Other goals Remington has in the upcoming years are to create a new culture in Clinton High activities and be a sounding board for the coaches and kids in those programs.

"I'm wanting to be a valuable resource for our coaches and programs, one of the things I have told them is that I understand the challenges they face in their programs from budget to talent to winning and losing," he said.

A long-term plan by Remington to help out all of the high school's programs is to increase presence in the youth levels. He said by developing the programs early it can help create a "total program."

Remington said that since the school year has started, community pride is very high and he's been impressed so far at how people in the area rally around Clinton High.



Hall of Fame Justin Remington

Justin Remington (right) congratulates Clinton High School Hall of Fame members Sept. 4 at Clinton High School. SUBMITTED PHOTO

"We can all rally around Clinton High and that's what's special about this place, that's what I love about this community and school and going forward I think its only going to get better with the pride and culture," he said.