



**USD 394
ROSE HILL SCHOOLS**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Rose Hill Schools Names Mr. Welch as Next Principal of Rose Hill High School

Rose Hill Schools is proud to announce the promotion of Mr. Welch to serve as Principal of Rose Hill High School beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Mr. Welch has served the district for the past 11 years in a variety of roles and brings 17 years of experience in education to his new position.

A native of Osawatomie, Kansas, Mr. Welch earned his Bachelor's degree in Physical Education with a minor in General Science from Pittsburg State University. Prior to joining Rose Hill, he taught at Neodesha and at Marais Des Cygnes Valley Schools, instructing physical education, science, and social studies. He also built a strong background in coaching football, basketball, and track and field, including serving as head boys' basketball coach at Neodesha High School.

Since joining Rose Hill in 2015, Mr. Welch has made a significant impact across multiple areas of the high school. He began his career in the district as a physical education teacher before transitioning to the counseling department, where he served for six years as a student advisor and Career and Technical Education (CTE) coordinator. During his time in that role, Rose Hill High School earned the 2023 4A Division award for FAFSA completion rate, highlighting the school's commitment to preparing students for post-secondary success. For the past two years, Mr. Welch has served as assistant principal.

In addition to his academic leadership, Mr. Welch has been deeply involved in Rocket athletics. He served as head girls' basketball coach from 2015 to 2020, boys' assistant basketball coach from 2020 to 2022, and concluded his coaching career as head boys' basketball coach from 2022 to 2024.

Mr. Welch describes his leadership style as one rooted in servant leadership and accountability. "My job is to serve my staff in my building to make their lives as easy as I can so they can focus on their individual classrooms," he said. "There is no job too big or small, just what is best for our school in the moment. As leaders, we take ownership of everything that happens in this building and work to make it a positive experience for students, parents, and community members."

As he steps into the principal role, Mr. Welch's top priority is supporting staff. "If our staff feels supported, they can focus on pushing our students to continue accomplishing great things," he said.

Looking ahead, his vision centers on preparing every student for life beyond high school. "All students will not have the same goals or plans, but it is our job to ensure they are prepared for their next steps, whether that is a university, trade school, the military, or entering the workforce. Students should have the information they need to make informed decisions about their futures."

Mr. Welch expressed deep appreciation for the Rose Hill community, where he and his family have lived since 2015. "There are so few places like this one," he shared. "It's a blessing to raise my family here. We can never forget how good we have it in Rose Hill."

He and his wife, Jenae, a pharmacist at Dandurand Drugs in Wichita, have been married for 14 years and have four sons: Brock (12), Bennett (11), Cole (8), and Connor (4).

When asked what student success looks like, Mr. Welch emphasized a well-rounded high school experience. "Success comes in many forms: academic, activities, or athletics, and all should be celebrated and supported at Rose Hill High School," he said.

He also shared a message for the Rocket community:

To students: "Be loud and proud about Rose Hill. It's always a great day to be a Rocket!"

To staff: "I am excited to continue working with a great group of teachers, coaches, and classified staff. The staff at Rose Hill has made this an easy place to come to work for the past eleven years, and I plan to do all I can to keep it that way."

Rose Hill Schools looks forward to Mr. Welch's continued leadership and the positive impact he will make as Principal of Rose Hill High School.

