



**USD 394
ROSE HILL SCHOOLS**

MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate
Release**

(316) 776-3300

rosehillschools@usd394.com

104 N Rose Hill Rd, Rose Hill, KS 67133

April 24, 2026

Van Horn Named Head Girls' Golf Coach at Rose Hill High School

Rose Hill Schools is proud to announce the hiring of Mr. Van Horn as the new Head Girls' Golf Coach at Rose Hill High School.

Van Horn currently serves as a communications teacher at Rose Hill Middle School, where he has been a dedicated member of the district for the past six years. He brings a wide range of coaching experience, including starting the bowling program at Valley Center High School, serving as a forensics and debate coach, and working as an assistant high school girls golf coach. At Rose Hill Middle School, he has coached volleyball, scholars bowl, and currently leads the middle school golf program.

Van Horn's background in golf dates back to his playing days at Abilene High School, where he qualified for the state tournament twice and earned a league tournament placing during his senior year. He remains active in the game, participating in the Fossil Men's League at Sierra Hills for the past 15 years.

"I love growing programs," Van Horn said. "When I took over the middle school golf program, we had 14 golfers. Now, we have 25. I want to build that same excitement and create a strong pipeline from the middle school to the high school program."

Van Horn is especially excited about the opportunity to work with student-athletes over an extended period of time, helping them develop both on and off the course.

"If I'm lucky, I'll get to coach a lot of these girls for six years," he said. "I'm excited to see their growth and to create opportunities like hosting a home tournament and involving students in that process."

His coaching philosophy centers on creating an inclusive and engaging environment where all students can find value in the program. "Some kids love the sport, others love the camaraderie, and others want to learn a skill outside the classroom," Van Horn said. "I want to build a culture where every student can get what they're looking for... whether that's competing, making friends, or learning a lifelong sport."

Looking ahead, Van Horn plans to focus on increasing participation and building a strong foundation for the program.

"We're going to start with involvement," he said. "Our goal is to get 10 girls out this year and host a meet. From there, we'll focus on growing the program through fundraising and building something that attracts students."

Van Horn also emphasizes the importance of academics and character development in his program.

"If you don't make smart decisions in class, you're probably not going to make smart choices on the golf course," he said. "There's a strong connection between the two."

Having built relationships with many students during their middle school years, Van Horn believes those connections will help strengthen the high school program.

"I love having that pre-existing relationship with our students," he said. "If they enjoyed my class, I hope they'll look at the golf program and feel the same way."

In addition to competition, Van Horn is committed to creating meaningful experiences for his athletes.

"We're not just playing in tournaments, we're creating memories," he said. "Whether it's team trips or shared experiences, those moments will last long after their high school years."

Rose Hill Schools is excited about the energy, experience, and vision Van Horn brings to the girls' golf program and looks forward to its continued growth under his leadership.



(316) 776-3300



www.usd394.com



rosehillschools@usd394.com