

**Black Horse Pike Regional School District  
Spotlight on Alumni Spotlight – TIMBER CREEK  
JANUARY 2021**



**ERIN FLOYD, co 2006**

*“After graduating, Erin went to UNC Charlotte and completed a successful basketball career that included leading her team to an Atlantic 10 Conference title and 4 WNIT appearances. She was awarded the team's Golden Nugget Award, which is given to the player that exhibits the most dedication and determination to the 49ers women's basketball program, three times.*

*After graduation she spent time as a graduate assistant at UNC Charlotte, the director of operations at the University of North Texas, and then a Special Assistant Coach at the University of Texas, Austin. At the University of Texas, Erin was responsible for much of their community outreach including youth camps and clinics. Erin is currently teaching History at Westlake High School in Austin, where she is continuing her passion for teaching and coaching. She also continues to coordinate summer camps programs for her community.”*

*~ Cara Fry, Science Teacher, Triton HS*

**1. AA: Upon graduation, what post-secondary path did you take and why?**

**ERIN:** I went to The University of North Carolina at Charlotte to play basketball further my education. Being a two sport athlete in high school, I knew I wanted to continue my athletic career. Despite being recruited heavily from schools in the north east and around home, I knew I wanted to go further away and get out and explore areas outside of my comfort zone.

**2. Looking back, would you have done anything differently and why?**

**ERIN:** I would not do a single thing differently. Although I miss my friends and family in New Jersey, the decision to go out of state and play collegiate basketball at the Division 1 level led to so many phenomenal experiences that I would never have had. I was a member of the Women's Basketball team representing the United States at the World University games in Thailand. I traveled to so many states and met some of my best friends. I was able to make life long connections to coaches and universities that led me to working at The University of Texas on the women's basketball staff, and getting to explore the world of athletics from the coaching side instead of just the athlete perspective.

**3. AA: Describe your career/profession today?**

**ERIN:** Today, I am a U.S History teacher and Women's Basketball Coach at Westlake High School in Austin, TX. Westlake is ranked nationally both for academics and athletics.

**4. AA: What impact did your BHP high school have on your career path/profession?**

**ERIN:** Absolutely! My coaches and teachers had a HUGE impact on me. I was challenged on the field and court as well as in the classroom. I learned mentality and toughness through high school sports, a mentality that helped shape my athletic career and ultimately everything in my life professionally. My high school experience was fantastic. (Thank you **Mr. and Mrs./ Coach Nordone, Ms. Petite, Ms. Shelly, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Ambrose, Coach B, Mr. Acchitelli, and more**)

**5. AA: Were there specific teachers, coaches, counselors, administrators, secretaries or other professionals that had a major impact on you while in school, and if so, who were those professionals and describe how they helped you along your HS journey.**

**ERIN:** Thank you **Mr. and Mrs./ Coach Nordone** - learned toughness from you - I will never forget soccer pre-season two-a-days. EVER. Even through college sports, those were still the hardest and most rewarding moments. **Coach B, Ms. Petite, Ms. Shelly** - talk about patience and consistency, basketball was always more than a game to me, I love it deep in my gut and as coaches you knew that and helped me cultivate it. **Mr. Saunders, Mr. Ambrose, Mr. Acchitelli, and more** - the atmosphere

you created everywhere on our campus made me feel like every day was important to you, and that made it important to me.

**6. AA: Which school clubs, sports, activities, etc., if any, did you participate in when you attended your BHP high school? If so, were there any moments or experiences that you can recall that helped you become the person you are today?**

**ERIN:** Soccer and Basketball and Class of 2006 council. I touched on athletic experiences earlier, but for class of 2006 - our fundraisers were the best, specifically the haunted house we put on. We had so much support from our Class sponsor, **Mrs. Gofberg** - young and vibrant and full of energy - she listened to every crazy idea we had and believed we could pull it off and did. We were so proud and had an awesome time.

**7. AA: Please share any other favorite memories of the Black Horse Pike Regional School District, your HS in particular, that would inspire today's youth?**

**ERIN:** There is not one big shining moment for me. It's the comprehensive experience, a little of everything that brought me the joy that I look back on and cherish about my high school days. Don't get me wrong, there were days when I hated school, where homeroom was too early, and practice was too late, and the teachers were too mean, but the relationships I had with adults that supported me and believed in me, and the friendship groups that I had greatly outweigh the negative. What I tell my own students today, is that not every day is a good day - and that's okay. But we can't let one bad day be the definition of your experience and what you choose to lean into everyday - will make or break your experience. So always lean into good, don't be afraid to get uncomfortable, and find the fun in everything you do.

**8. What advice would you give to our current student body? What would you have done differently in high school if you could turn back time?**

**ERIN:** See above! And - **SAY THANK YOU**. It goes a long way, the fun of being a teacher is the kids, but there is a lot of other not so fun that comes with that. Understand that your teachers truly do enjoy being in the classroom with you, the other stuff wouldn't be worth it if they didn't, - so say thank you and be respectful.

