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Sue Carpenter Named FHS Head Softball Coach
Veteran SEC Collegiate Coach to Lead Purple Dogs

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark.—Dr. Matthew Wendt, Superintendent of Schools, will recommend the hire of Sue Carpenter as the new head softball coach for Fayetteville High School. Pending Board of Education approval, Carpenter will assume her role July 1, 2017.

“Coach Carpenter brings a wealth of collegiate and high school coaching experience, a love of the game, and a dedication to young female athletes both on and off the field,” said Dr. Wendt. “Under her leadership, I am convinced our softball program will flourish. I am very excited for our upcoming student-athletes, their families, and our FHS softball program.”

Carpenter is the head softball coach for the Impact Gold Softball Organization for 18U in Dallas-Fort Worth. She was the assistant coach for the University of Arkansas softball team from 2009-2015. During her tenure with the Razorbacks, teams played in four NCAA Regional tournaments and were two-time NCAA regional finalists. She coached nine All-SEC players, eight SEC players of the week and one NFCA All-American.

"I am both humbled and blessed at the opportunity to be the head girls’ softball coach at Fayetteville High School,” Carpenter said. “There is a standard of excellence that is Bulldog Athletics, and I am so grateful to be a part of it and to continue to build on the foundation that has been created.”

Carpenter continued, “As a coach, I hope that my passion for the game and my enthusiasm for life will result in success for girls both on and off the field. I would like to thank Mr. Janski and Dr. Wendt for allowing me this awesome opportunity. My family and I called Fayetteville ‘home’ for seven years, and we are truly excited to be ‘home.’ Go Bulldogs!”

Previous to her time at the U of A, Carpenter was assistant coach at Wright State University, head coach at Cedarville University and Cedarville High School, as well as head coach at Colville High School. Carpenter played four years of collegiate softball at Cedarville University where she set
school records for steals, career walks and on base percentage. She was a two time All-NAIA shortstop, has played competitively overseas and in the Women’s Majors, competing in five National Tournaments. Carpenter earned a bachelor of arts in organizational communication from Cedarville University.

"The future of our Bulldog Softball program is extremely bright," said Steve Janski, Director of Athletics. "We could not be more excited to have Coach Carpenter join the Purple Dog family. Sue’s wealth of collegiate experience and impeccable reputation of investing and mentoring student-athletes are second to none. I am very pleased to share the following quotes from some incredible coaches."

- “Fayetteville High School hit a home run when they hired Sue Carpenter to be the next head softball coach. She’ll bring experience, enthusiasm, and a passion for the game that will resonate with her players. She not only cares about the game but she cares about people and will be a great role model and mentor to her athletes. Sue is the kind of coach I would be happy to have my daughter play for and FHS is blessed to have her. -- Steve Foster, Pitching Coach, Colorado Rockies

- “Coach Carpenter is going to do a terrific job as the new head softball coach at Fayetteville High School. Her knowledge of the game, ability to teach, and her energy and love for the game will attract student athletes to want to play softball at FHS. She will be an incredible role model for the female athlete and will help them grow not only on the softball field but in other areas of life. A great hire who will do amazing things!” -- Mike Larabee, Head Softball Coach, Central Washington University

- “What a great hire for Fayetteville High School! Sue is a great coach with a tremendous knowledge of the game. Even more importantly, Sue is a great leader, role model, and mentor. I look forward to the “complete” player that she will produce at FHS.” -- Eric Newell, Head Softball Coach, University of Auburn-Montgomery

“One of the most admired high school athletic programs in the nation just scored a huge hire for every Fayetteville girl interested in FHS softball,” stated Dr. Wendt. “I am proud of Steve Janski, and I extend my gratitude to him for a job well done. This is another great day for Fayetteville Public Schools.”

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About Fayetteville Public Schools:
Fayetteville School District #1, also known as Fayetteville Public Schools, was founded in 1871 as the first chartered public school district in Arkansas. Consisting of one high school, two junior highs, two middle schools, one combined elementary/middle school, 8 elementary schools, and one virtual academy, Fayetteville Public Schools has a long and rich tradition of excellence in academics, fine arts, technology, and athletics.

The Fayetteville School District has recently been named #1 in the 2017 Best School Districts in Arkansas by niche.com.