



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **SPARTA AREA SCHOOLS HIRES NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

Sparta, Michigan - The Board of Education of Sparta Area Schools is excited to announce that they have approved the hire of Nick Pettit as the new Athletic Director for the district. Dr. Pettit has been the Deputy Athletic Director at Cal-Poly, a Division 1 institution in California, for the last seven years. Prior to that he served as an Associate Athletic Director at San Diego State University for seven years.

Dr. Pettit is a native of Grand Ledge, Michigan. He graduated from Michigan State University in 1998 with a bachelor of science degree in food industry management, earned a master's degree in sports management from the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama, in 2007, and completed his doctorate in educational leadership at San Diego State in 2013. Pettit's doctoral research focused on student-athlete academic success, specifically within the at-risk population, and how athletic departments can best serve their students.

"I'm extremely excited for this new chapter of my career, serving student-athletes and helping them achieve their goals and aspirations," said Pettit.

"Dr. Pettit has been an integral part of Cal Poly Athletics over his seven years with the Mustangs," said Cal Poly Director of Athletics Don Oberhelman. "We will miss his leadership and wish him and his family well on their new opportunities in Michigan."

Pettit is set to begin his new role on July 11. He and his wife, Amber, have three children Beau (14), Ty (12), and Tori (8).



Dr. Nick Pettit