

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/6/17 CONTACT: NOELL BARNIDGE (912) 644-7008**

## **Benedictine hires Bob Williams as math teacher, basketball head coach**

SAVANNAH, Ga. – Bob Williams, former mathematics director of Niles West High School in suburban Chicago and a 2014 inductee into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, has joined Benedictine Military School. Williams will be a member of BC's mathematics department and serve as the Cadets' varsity basketball head coach, BC Principal Jacob Horne announced today.

Williams, who is Catholic, brings more than 30 years of experience teaching various high school mathematics courses at all levels. He was a math teacher at Palatine High School (1980-91), Schaumburg High School (1991-2009) and Niles West (2009-10) before being promoted to Mathematics Director. At Niles West, a public four-year high school in Skokie, Ill., Williams led a department of 36 educators from 2010-17. In addition to being a national board certified mathematics teacher, Williams served as the Illinois Council of Teachers' Math Program Chair. He also co-authored "Experiencing Mathematics," a resource textbook.

Williams earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education at the University of North Dakota, and a Master of Science degree in education at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

"What stood out about Mr. Williams during his interview is he is an educator at heart," Horne said. "Through all of his success on the court and in the classroom, a constant theme was his passion for making an impact on young people. With over 30 years of teaching and coaching experience, he has a great deal to add to our faculty and as a member of the Benedictine community."

As a basketball coach, Williams was named National High School Basketball Coach of the Year in 2001, and he was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2014. Williams was the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association President from 2015-17, and a nine-time recipient of the IBCA's Regional Coach of the Year award.

Williams compiled a 443-273 record in 18 years, winning a state championship, and earning two state semifinal and eight quarterfinal appearances. His teams also won 11 conference championships, 10 regional championships, and three sectional championships.

Williams was an assistant varsity basketball coach at Palatine High School from 1980-91. He served as a varsity basketball head coach at Schaumburg (1991-2009) and Niles West (2009-17). His 2000-01 Schaumburg team produced one of the biggest title-game upsets in IHSA history when it beat Thornwood and future NBA first-round draft pick Eddy Curry, 66-54, in the Class AA state championship game.