

I am extremely excited to be the head football coach at Rancho Mirage High School. The opportunity to open a brand new high school has truly been an honor.

I was born and raised in a small rural community in Northeastern Montana. I graduated from Malta High School, in Malta Montana in 1999. Located 60 miles south of the Canadian border we had a population of around 2,000 people in my town. I was a 3 sport athlete, playing football, basketball, and track. After high school I played 5 years of college football and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from Montana State University – Northern in K-12 Physical Education and Health Enhancement. In 2007, I completed my Masters Degree from California State University San Bernardino in Educational Administration.

In 2005, I was hired by Palm Springs Unified School District to teach Elementary PE at Edward L. Wenzlaff Elementary in Desert Hot Springs. I taught there for 4 years, and then transferred to Desert Hot Springs High School where I taught 4 more years. This will be my 9th year teaching for PSUSD. I currently teach Freshman PE and weight training.

In 2004, my coaching career began as a Graduate Assistant at Montana State University – Northern where I coached Linebackers. When I was hired by the PSUSD, I began my high school coaching career at DHSHS as an assistant varsity coach. My second year I became defensive coordinator. In 2009, I became the head football coach at DHSHS, and held that position for 4 years before transferring to Rancho Mirage High School. This is my 16 year of coaching and teaching. I have coached basketball and track and field as well.

As we enter into our 12th year fielding a varsity football program, the challenge and expectation once again are upon us. We strive to compete at the highest level, and look forward to the opportunity to play in the newly formed Desert Empire League." Our student athletes are working to be the best that they can possibly be, with the goal of making the CIF play-offs, and winning a DEL and CIF Championship. Go Rattlers!!

L.D. Matthews
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Rancho Mirage HS Football

CIF Play Offs
'15 '16 '17 '19 '21 '23 '24
CIF Qtr Finals
'15 '16 '17 '21
CIF Semi Finals
'16 '17
CIF Finals
'16

League Champions
2016 2023 2024

DESERT EMPIRE