

# Tuscola Community Unit School District #301

409 S Prairie  
Tuscola, IL 61953



217-253-4241 (p)  
217-253-4522 (f)

Michael Smith, Superintendent

March 23, 2015

## **Press Release: Tuscola High School Head Football Coach**

The Tuscola CUSD #301 School Board approved the hiring of Mr. Andy Romine as the new head football coach at its regular board meeting on Monday, March 23, 2015.

Mr. Romine has been a highly successful defensive coordinator for the Tuscola Warriors since 2008.

Andy served as defensive coordinator during our State Championship in 2009 and back-to-back 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes in 2010 and 2011.

He becomes the 28<sup>th</sup> head coach in Tuscola history. A football program that began in 1895. He takes over a program that is 197-53 since 1994 with two state championships and three 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes. Tuscola has also qualified for the playoffs in 20 of the last 21 years.

Coach Romine is the first Tuscola assistant named head coach since Mr. Gene Murray in 1965.

He has also coached middle school boys' basketball and has served as junior high track throws coach at Tuscola East Prairie Middle School. He has previously coached at both Fisher and Atwood-Hammond (South Piatt).

The interview committee recognizes the hard work, passion, dedication, and love of student athletes Coach Romine emulates. The district was looking for a coach who had the desire to lead an already established program with the ability to make our student body, parents and community proud on and off the field.

Previous head coach, Rick Reinhart, resigned in February to take the head coaching position at Collinsville High School.

Coach Romine teaches History and Physical Education at East Prairie Middle School. He and his wife, Gina, have been married for 3 years. They have one son, Callen, and the family will welcome a daughter in July. They reside in Tuscola.

## **Quotes:**

### **Andy Romine, Tuscola Head Football Coach**

"This is a fantastic opportunity. Tuscola is the place I want to be professionally and a place my family sees itself for many years to come.

As for football, we feel we have a great foundation in place for continued success. Our kids are winners on the field and they understand what it takes to have success. But our greatest goal will always be to use the game of football and the lessons it teaches to help kids be successful when they are through playing.

From that standpoint, with the resources and culture we have in place, I believe this is one of the most desirable jobs in the state."

### **Brad Allen, TCHS Principal**

"Mr. Romine brings a true passion for the game and the ability to lead a program to success. During the interview process, the one aspect that caught my attention, was his statement about winning being a byproduct of how you do everything else in your program.

Knowing that our student athletes will be led by a staff continuing to focus on doing things the right way, assures me our program serves a purpose; a purpose in the development of the players as athletes and contributing members of a very supportive Tuscola community."

### **Ryan Hornaday, Tuscola Athletic Director**

"For the last several years, our football teams have played a hard-nosed style of football and that is a direct reflection of Coach Romine's personality. He will bring great leadership, discipline, and strong organizational skills to the position.

We're fortunate to have Coach Romine leading our storied football program."

### **Michael Smith, Superintendent**

"Coach Romine impressed the interview committee with his love for Tuscola, our students and the game of football. His knowledge of our program, school district, community and players will allow him to make a smooth transition to head coach.

There is no doubt in my mind he will lead the Warriors with honesty and integrity on and off the field.

The students and athletes of Tuscola have benefited from his leadership for many years, and there is no doubt this will continue in his role as head football coach."

Michael Smith  
Superintendent  
Tuscola CUSD #301  
micsmith@tuscola.k12.il.us