

It's Bigger Than Biology

By Jayden Bates-Bland

Photos courtesy of Jeremy Blincoe and Crystal Onago

Even if you haven't actually met Jeremy Blincoe, it is likely that you have heard him at least once. Blincoe can usually be found in the science hall screaming about how good of a day it will be today, or how excited students should be for school. Without his positivity, Golden High School would be majorly lacking, especially in the mornings when no one is ready to learn.

Blincoe has been at Golden for 27 years now making him the second-longest teacher at Golden just behind Chad Reid. He came to Golden right out of college because he was able to get an interview, and got recommended by several people. Of course, he was one of the last

people to be interviewed since he came from outside of the Jeffco school district, but fortunately, the school realized that he was a perfect fit for Golden and he has been teaching here ever since.

But before he joined the Golden family, he went to college at the University of Northern



Colorado and got a degree in biological science. When he was getting ready to go to college he had absolutely no idea what he wanted to do with his life. All he knew was that he enjoyed sports and he was good at math and science. So when a teacher asked about his plans for the future, he didn't know what to say. "My high school biology teacher pulled me aside and said 'What are you going to do after school?'. I've always been involved in sports, I was always good at math and science, and when I said that he said 'Well what about teaching?' and after I got done laughing, because I didn't think that would be a career that would suit me really well, I applied to UNC which was the best post-secondary teaching school at that time."

After just three and a half years out of high school, he returned to do his student teaching and then he started at Golden. Both Blincoe and his wife, Jayme, are teachers, but she teaches middle school, whereas he felt that he was more suited for high school. Blincoe believes that it is important for a teacher to decide what grades they will teach based on their capability to connect with their students. "I think that connecting with kids is important and I think



that I can do that better at the level that I teach.” While Blincoe realistically could teach any grade, he knew that he would do best in a high school setting, and he was right.

While there are many students who can have a hard time connecting with Blincoe due to his extremely outgoing personality, there are probably equally as many students who need a teacher like Blincoe in their lives. His willingness to work with the people who want his help and his ability to bring people out of their shells make him an incredibly valuable person and someone to truly be appreciated. He even admitted that he is able to connect well with students who struggle in school because he can relate.

“I wasn’t the best student in high school, so when kids try to pull stuff I know because I was probably that kid in high school.”

And even if you have never had him as a teacher, there are a lot of students who know him through sports. Blincoe played several sports in high school, but he says that football is his “passion



sport” so that is what he mostly coaches but he has had some other coaching experience.

“I coached here for 18 years, I coached football and then did baseball when I first started teaching. Then after my first kid was born, I stopped coaching baseball, which right after I stopped coaching they won the state title, so I don’t know what that says. So I’ve coached football the whole time, but doing two sports was difficult with a family, especially a young family at the time. Then I went to Stanley Lake for



about seven years and coached football over there. Then I was invited back to keep coaching over here. So I have never not coached football, but I’ve coached baseball for a time and then for a long time I helped with the basketball program.”

Even though teaching is extremely important to Blincoe, his family will always come first. His parents still live in the same house that he grew up in. In high school, he met his wife who was a



year behind him. They went to college together, got married, moved a mile away from his parents and then they started a family that has continued growing. He has two daughters, one of which just graduated high school last year, and his oldest just had a daughter of her own. Blincoe shared that he appreciates that he has grown up so close to his family because there has always been that support, and his

children have a good relationship with their grandparents. He expressed that he is excited to do for his daughter what his parents did for him.

Many teachers will stop teaching once they hit the 30-year mark, which would theoretically mean Blincoe would teach for three more years. However, that isn't currently his plan.

"As long as I enjoy it I would like to continue to do it. Being in the classroom, standing in front of the class, I absolutely enjoy that. I love explaining the natural world around people and having them look at things differently. It's the same for me because I'm explaining the same thing year after year after year, but it's that explanation of now all of a sudden something's new and a kid sees a connection to something real in their world, something tangible to them, and that, that is what brings me joy, as far as making it so they understand the world around them a little better."

Sometimes students consider Blincoe's class to be very difficult, and while he isn't aiming for his students to fail, he does have goals for them. He often says that he believes it's okay to fail, and if he can be there to help you through that failure, and lead you to success, that's what truly matters.



“I want to push kids, I want to have kids go beyond their comfort because I think that’s where you’re going to have the most growth. I think sometimes, I know that I get kids saying ‘This class is really hard, but I feel like I learned a lot’ and that’s the growth factor that I really want out of things.”



Blincoe shared a final philosophy,

“I think relationships are really important, and developing those relationships and trying to understand different views of the world. I think we’ve become very narrow-focused in a lot of places, people look in their echo chambers way too often and they don’t see outside their little boundaries, and I think being more worldly is something we as people need to do a better job of doing.”

So whether you have had Blincoe as a teacher, a coach, or just heard him yelling at one point or another, it’s important that he is acknowledged and respected for the immense impact he has had on Golden. While he is not always the easiest person to develop a relationship with, and his class is not always the easiest class to do well in, in his heart his only goal is the success of his students. That

is something that can always be appreciated.