

Jefferson softball field named for Niemeyer

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The Jefferson High School softball team will play all its home games on "Larry Niemeyer Field" in the future, it was announced Thursday.

Dr. Dave Benson, the superintendent of the Cedar Rapids school district, has approved a request by the Jefferson Booster Club to name the field in Niemeyer's honor.

"Having the Jefferson softball field named after me is truly an honor," Niemeyer remarked. "It is certainly one of the highlights of my career. It is hard to put into words how proud I am."

Niemeyer has won 2,089 games as a high school softball coach at Jefferson and Adel, making him the winningest prep coach in the country. He led the J-Hawks to three state titles and was named the National High School Softball Coach of the Year in 1989, 2004 and 2010.

Niemeyer was inducted into the National High School Hall of Fame in 2002.

"We believe placing Larry Niemeyer's name on the field at the Jefferson Softball Complex, where it can stand as a permanent reminder of his contributions to Jefferson High School and the Cedar Rapids Community School District, is a worthy mark of our appreciation," said Mark Fiala, the president of the Jefferson Booster Club.

Niemeyer finished his softball career at Jefferson after the 2012 season. He has been hired as the head softball coach at Waterloo West for the 2013 campaign.