

Meet the teacher: Chase Langendorf

Chase Langendorf teaches social studies classes at Metro-East Lutheran High School that range from world geography to dual-credit U.S. history to civics to AP human geography, just to name a few. And he believes these courses are some of the “most relatable courses you can have as a human being.”

“History and social studies help you understand people from around the world, why they have their beliefs, the events they have gone through and how that has shaped their identity — starting in your own community and then spreading out from there,” Mr. Langendorf said.

While Mr. Langendorf has been teaching at MELHS for five years, he’s been a part of Knight nation for much longer. He graduated from MELHS in 2016, and he said the influence his teachers had on him while he was here, and then the opportunity to influence younger students himself as a summer camp counselor while in high school, made him begin considering becoming a teacher.

“I loved having an impact on the kids at camp,” he said. “I wanted to have a career where I could have that same kind of impact and provide the same kind of opportunity for future generations that I had while a student here.”

Mr. Langendorf at a glance:

- Bachelor’s of science in history with a minor in social science education and master’s of arts in history, both from SIUE
- Head boys golf coach and assistant baseball coach at MELHS, where he also played golf and baseball as a student
- Will be getting married in May to a fellow educator who teaches at Hillsboro Elementary

The best part about being a MELHS teacher: *Being in a small community, you can have a more direct relationship with students and watch them grow from their freshman year to their senior year. Seeing students shape their identities while in high school and having just a small part in that process is really rewarding.*

“When I was a student here, I never thought I might be coming back as a teacher. The teachers here don’t often leave. They love making an impact, and they stay. So a position being open when I was looking for a job — it was just God’s planning.”

CHASE LANGENDORF

