Maria Kennedy, a long-time physical education teacher and basketball coach in the El Paso Independent School District, is the Director of Athletics for the El Paso ISD.

Kennedy oversees all athletic extracurricular operations for EPISD and works with coaches at all high schools and middle schools to make sure students have access to athletic activities in accordance to state and University Interscholastic League regulations.

She is also in charge of all athletic facilities in the District, including the potential upgrades that were part of the 2016 EPISD Bond.

Kennedy served as the assistant director of athletics under Kenneth Owens, who retired in the fall as the athletic director.

She has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in physical education from Sul Ross State University, where she played college basketball. She also earned a mid-management certificate from New Mexico State University.

Her career in education began in Victoria, Texas, where she served as a physical education teacher. She arrived in EPISD in 1986 where she taught and coached at Coldwell School and Irvin High School. She then moved to Franklin High School, where she was the head girls basketball coach for 11 years.

Kennedy is EPISD’s second female athletic director.