One of the most feared rooms at South Pointe is the In School Suspension room, not only because it’s the ISS room but also because of the supervisor. The supervisor is physically imposing and has a very strong character that makes students fear going to ISS.

However outside of his role of supervisor for ISS, Coach Peake is one of the friendliest and funniest teachers at South Pointe, students and football players say.

Gerald Peake is the defensive line coach at South Pointe. This will be his 11th year working and coaching at South Pointe. Peake has a vast amount of experience as a coach, with 21 years under his belt. Peake is one of the few coaches and teachers who have been here since South Pointe was inaugurated in 2005.

Peake credits Coach Eddie Cook for him ending up at South Pointe. The pair had worked together at Weddington High School in North Carolina. Coach Cook informed him about a new school opening and needing teachers. Peake and Cook both applied and ended up getting jobs here.

Since then Coach Peake has been part of the coaching staff for the South Pointe football team. Through these 12 years Peake has won five state championships with the team. He has also coached outstanding players like Zeek Rodney, Eli Adams, Gerald Dixon, Tay Robinson, and Jadeveon Clowney.

Peake has achieved something he had never imagined in winning five state championships in 12 years and coaching future college and NFL standouts.

“One of my wildest dreams to be part of such a young program and achieve what we have done,” Peake said.

However, his main goal as a coach is to help shape young men’s lives and he is able to achieve that through football. Peake hopes that his players can say, “Coach Peake cared for me on and off the field.”

Senior defensive end Eli Adams, already committed to play at Virginia Tech, says that Peake is always tougher on those he cares about the most. “He is always pushing me to do better in school, not only so I can be successful in football but also later on life,” Adams said.

Peake is known to push his players on the football field, but also to push them to do better in the classroom and the community. The message that he preaches to his players is to be accountable. Peake has a quote that is famous among Stallion football players: “Don’t make your problem my problem.”

Even though Peake is seen as mentor and teacher for his players, he claims that he has also learned a lot from them. The main thing that he has learned is patience, which is key when it comes to coaching players who have the talent that the D-line at South Pointe is known to have.

Before his coaching career and working in schools, Peake was a member of the U.S Air Force and later worked for the CIA.

One would think that his years in the Air Force were what shaped his character, Peake says that it helped with his discipline, but it was his mom who shaped his character.

Coach Peake gives credit to his mother and role model for shaping his personality and tough character. He looked to his mother, a strong woman who was able to raise five kids on her own after her husband’s death.

A quote that Coach Peake likes to live by is, “Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.” This is something that Peake tries to get the people under his influence to understand so that they can have a great impact in others’ lives.

Outside of his roles as an ISS supervisor, coach, and a mentor, Peake enjoys watching football, especially when his Tar Heels and Cowboys play, and listening to Jazz music.

Peake also likes to travel and spend time with his wife, whom he describes as ‚“my world,” Karla Peake, who graduated Harvard University as an undergrad, is an attorney. He describes his relationship with his wife as the most important thing in his life and says, “It has been 35 years of good living.”

Another passion that Peake has and is known for among the football community is dancing. Peake claims that he is always down for a good time on a dance floor, but most importantly, “dance floor, Coach Peake is never scared of,” he laughed.