

**School Board Workshop:**

**November, 2023**

**Subject:**

**Spring 2023 Activities Report**

**Presenter:**

**Nick Guida, BHS Activities Director**

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**SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:** Report

**DESCRIPTION:** Season Summaries

Buffalo High School successfully completed its Spring activities seasons for the 2022-23 school year. Coaches and Advisors have completed a short narrative of their season for you to review. Thank you for supporting activities at BHS!

**Adapted Softball**

Head Coach: Diedre Anderson

Another successful Adapted Softball season despite a tough record. Each and every member of the Coyotes gives their all in every game and shows incredible sportsmanship and team player qualities. I am so proud of our solo senior, Aubrey Sands for her dedication to the Coyotes as well as scoring her first runs of her career this season.

A peak at our scorebook wouldn't come close to describing what this team means to our students as well as our community. The Coyotes represent overcoming obstacles and showing grit, on and off the field. I'm proud of Aubrey Sands for putting her teammates first and showing true friendship. I am proud of Lisa Bull for never giving up and always striving to get better. I'm proud of Natalie Payne for hitting some crazy line drives. I'm proud of Vanessa Kyllonen's flexibility and play-making skills on defense. I'm proud of Caroline Haluska for making sure every player felt like a valuable part of the team. Go Coyotes!

**Softball**

Head Coach: Karli Persson

The Bison softball team finished with a conference record of 0-12 with an overall record of 3-20. While we didn't finish with the most wins, we were competing in all of the games until the very end and almost came out with wins in the majority of our games. We had a phenomenal offense that kept us fighting but unfortunately we struggled to keep the runners from crossing home plate. We are excited to be competitive and get that final push to finish games in 2024 and come out with the win!

**Track and Field**

Head Coach: Scott Palmer

The 2023 track and field season saw 164 male and female student athletes come out to compete in the best track and field conference in the state of Minnesota, the Lake Conference. Week in and week out, the Buffalo track and field athletes competed against the top competition the state has to offer, which allowed us to turn in many top performances throughout the season. On the girls side, Brianna Shroyer set new school records in the 100 (12.23), 200 (24.80) and 400 meter dash (55.70) as well as the girls 1600 Sprint Medley (4:49.99) Victoria Nelson, Abby Bolin, Avery Larson and Miley Farniok. On the Boys side, new school records were turned in by Carter Walker in the discus (165-60), and Mattie Ebert, Jerome Thomas, Landon Carrell and Saul Rhodes in the 4x100 (43.23). In total we added 17 male and female athletes to the top ten performance all-time list at Buffalo High School. The Bison had three All Lake Conference athletes- Brianna Shroyer 100,200,400, Carter Walker Discus and Sam Studnicka Pole Vault. Six Honorable Mention All Lake Conference winners- Andrea Rodenwald shot put, Rose Lamberts 100, Avery Larson 1600, Andrew Macheel 1600, Dexter Huss 3200 and Kody Curtis shot put. Nine athletes qualified for the state meet in June and six of those athletes earned All State recognition, those athletes were Brianna Shroyer 200/400, Carter Walker Discus, Andrew Macheel, Jacob Macheel, Dexter Huss and Wesley Wistrom in the 4x800. Finally, the Bison tracksters garnered 13 Academic All State Athletes and as a team both the boys and girls team took home the highest academic team award receiving a gold standard.

### **Boys Golf:**

Head Coach: Trey Fessler (Resigned)

We had a solid season overall. A lot of new faces on varsity as well as a whole new JV team. We had a few under par rounds with a sub 300 round at Bremar golf course in Edina. Overall it was a very fun season full of growth and a lot of learning.

### **Girls Golf**

\_Head Coach: Tim Murray

What are you doing today to be a better golfer? What are you doing today to be a better teammate? What are you doing today to be a better classmate? Daughter? Citizen? Every day on the golf course is about finding a way to do each of those things. Some days you have it on the course and other days you don't. Sometimes the driver works and the putter doesn't and some days are opposite. Just like life: some days are better than others. Sometimes friendships are great and other days they're not. The ups and downs of the spring seasons come quickly and being able to find the positivity in each experience is essential to a successful season and a successful spring. Sometimes the success is small and sometimes it is huge. From first experiences on varsity, to breaking 90, to break 100; each golfer was able to find successes in their own way.

This year, 21 golfers joined the team with nine golfers participating on varsity at some point throughout the season. The varsity golfers and letter earners were: Aspen Adams, Kendray Carey, Anna Kugler, Josie Lindquist, Natalie Mix, Mackenzie Mjelde, Julia Pack, Hayley Rohlin, and Raegan Wurm. We were extremely excited for our seniors, Aspen Adams and Raegan Wurm as they find their own way after high school. Their dedication to being amazing teammates and golfers is a testament to great

families, teachers and coaches they had over their extensive athletic experiences at BHS.

For what I think, is the third year in a row, I end with: Every athlete and golfer understands the importance of the effort and work that they need to put in. Finding balance in athletics with academics, friendships, family and other interests is a life lesson that we can practice and learn through golf. Coach Peyton Miller and Coach Murray were very excited about the amazing season that we had. The laughs and memories will live long in our memories.

## **Baseball**

Head Coach: Mike Beilke (20 Years)

The Bison finished the year with a record of 6-15. We finished the year with a Lake Conference record of 3-9. Some of the highlights of the season included beating Eden Prairie and Edina for the first time since joining the Lake Conference. Broc Mutterer pitched six shutout innings and Jack Henry threw one inning of shutout relief to help us defeat Eden Prairie 1-0. Another exciting moment in our season was a walk off home run by Luke Carnoy in the bottom of the seventh inning to defeat Hopkins. Caleb Breuer and Broc Mutterer were selected to the All-Conference team and Luke Carnoy, Jack Henry and Carson Schwartz received Honorable Mention All-Conference Awards. Wyatt Hicks was voted Most Improved. Carson Schwartz was voted Most Dedicated. Isaac Hill was selected as Rookie of the Year. Jack Lauer was selected for the LeRoy Erickson Hustler Award. Caleb Breuer and Logan LaPlante received the Leadership Award. Carson Schwartz and Logan LaPlante tied for the MVP Award. Brady Anderson, Broc Mutterer, Caleb Beuer, Carson Schwartz, Eric Johnson, Hunter Rosfjord, Jack Lauer, Logan LaPlante, Luke Carnoy and Taylor Morrissette will all be lost to graduation. Thank you to the seniors for your outstanding attitudes and leadership. We are very excited about the players we have returning for next season. We have a wealth of young talent returning. We have several pitchers with varsity experience returning for next season. I really enjoyed coaching this group of young men. Go Bison!!!

## **Boys Tennis:**

Boys Tennis: Head Coach Jordan Danielson (1st Year)

The 2023 boys tennis season began with a totally new look for coaching staff. Coach Watkins who had been the longtime head coach, stepped down and was replaced by myself, Jordan Danielson, the JV coach from the last several seasons. Joining me were two new coaches to the boys program, Simona Potočková (varsity assistant) and Katie Holmes (JV), and we were fortunate enough to gain the help of Tom Kuzma as a JV assistant. All three of these coaches provided great leadership, energy and engagement with all the players in our program. Their tennis knowledge and care for students was on full display all season long.

From a player perspective we were led by a large group of nine seniors who formed the heart of our varsity line-up. Some of these boys had been a part of the high school program since middle school and their continued leadership was extremely helpful for me as a first-time head coach. They cared for their teammates well, helped lead warm-ups and gave input on drills and line-ups. At the forefront of this group were the three

senior captains: Andrew Lotthammer, Brock Wykle and Nathan Leimer. Beginning in January, these three players were helping lead pre-season meetings, designing jerseys and providing input on which tournaments our team should compete in. During the season, through ups and downs, they led the team on and off the court, keeping us united and keeping team morale high.

Competitively we had a nice season, finishing with an 8-12 record. Though we did not reach 500, we lost only one match to teams who were not ranked in the top 10 of Minnesota or Wisconsin for at least a portion of the season. We truly play many of the toughest teams in the region. One of our closest matches came against Minnetonka, a highly talented team, in which we lost 3-4 with the deciding point coming in set tie-breakers 6-7, 6-7. Our season was highlighted by dominant wins over STMA and Monticello, local rival schools that are always fun to beat! By the end of the season, the Bison earned a 4 seed in sections and two opening round byes. In the quarterfinal round the Bison were able to avenge a narrow 3-4 defeat (with 4 top players missing) with a 7-0 defeat of Coon Rapids. The boys were ecstatic to show what they could accomplish with their full line-up. The season ended in the semi-finals against future state champions Wayzata.

Sam Shaffer (11th), for the third consecutive year, lead the team in singles wins with 11. This year, Sam played every match at 1 singles, meaning he played the best player from the other team every match, making it even more impressive. Likewise, Andrew Lotthammer, playing at 1 doubles led the team in doubles wins with 10. To have the two top players on the team, at the most challenging positions, lead the team in wins is a really impressive feat and is a credit to just how much work these two put in over the offseason to remain at the top of their game. Individual awards went to the following: most singles wins and MVP - Sam Shaffer, most improved player - Will Schmidt, Bison team spirit award - Alex Laho, most doubles wins and G.L.I.D.E. award - Andrew Lotthammer. The G.L.I.D.E. award was new this year and was given to the player who best represented our program's core values of Grace, Love, Integrity, Dignity and Effort. Andrew and Sam also earned 1st Team All Conference, with Nathan Leimer, Daniel Jungwirth and Nolan Mahannah earning Honorable Mentions.

The team received the All-State Academic Gold honor, which requires a cumulative team GPA of greater than 3.76.

What an amazing year it was as a new head coach. Our senior class has been so influential in this program for so long, they will be greatly missed. It is now up to our juniors and underclassmen to take up the reins of the next chapter of Bison boys tennis.

## **Boys Lacrosse**

Head Coach: Chad Hayda (Resigned)

<b><u>Team Record</u></b>		<b><u>Runner</u></b>			<b><u>Goaltender</u></b>	
<b><u>W</u></b>	<b><u>L</u></b>	<b><u>G</u></b>	<b><u>A</u></b>	<b><u>PTS</u></b>	<b><u>GAA</u></b>	<b><u>SV%</u></b>
<b><u>8</u></b>	<b><u>7</u></b>	<b><u>152</u></b>	<b><u>79</u></b>	<b><u>231</u></b>	<b><u>6.87</u></b>	<b><u>.544</u></b>

<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Layne Kology</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Ethan Nuss</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>William Webber</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Coy Meyer</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Charlie Jerde</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>

### **All Conference**

Ethan Nuss	12	Buffalo
Layne Kology	12	Buffalo
Griffin Valli	12	Buffalo

### **All Conference Honorable Mention**

Hunter Dalum	12	Buffalo
Braden Moseley	12	Buffalo
Coy Meyer	10	Buffalo

## **Girls Lacrosse**

### **Summer Marching Band**

Scott Rabehl - Director

"The HERD" had another fine season. Our 105 members had a fantastic season by any standard. Attendance was terrific. The work ethic was palpable.

As always, we had one of the largest bands in the state...only three bands were larger. And, with less rehearsal time than every other group, we continue to be highly ranked. Although we don't have a state championship in parade marching, I am comfortable

saying that we ended the season ranked 6th in the state of MN. That is a slip of 2 spots from last year. I am satisfied with that finish. I attribute that decline of placement to my programming choice. I selected music that was just a little too hard for the kids to perfect and allowed an inexperienced composer to create the arrangement. This caused us to have to stretch our skill set a lot, which is good, but made it tougher to "hit the target." MY FAULT!

### Competitive Summary

	Score	Placement	Specials
Buffalo	80.2	Exhibition	If we'd have been in competition "The HERD" would have been 2nd out of 6 bands.
Foley	79.0	4th out of 10 bands	
Sauk Rapids	84.6	2nd out of 16 bands	
Lake City	84.8	3rd out of 7 bands	
Roseville	75.4	4th out of 11 bands	All scores were tremendously low in this parade...most bands scored 7-8 points lower than their previous score.
Hanover		Exhibition	Not judged

Our average score in competitive parades (post Buffalo Days) was **80.95**, into the **Superior** box even with that weird season-ending score at Roseville. This is the highest average score in the history of the band.

*It was great to have Mr. Guida as our guest at the Roseville parade this season. It is hard to understand what these kids do without seeing them in action. And, I'm not just talking about the way they perform. I am talking about their "way of being". These kids do what needs to be done, when it needs to be done, whether they want to do it or not. To see them in action is a "well-filling experience" for any adult who believes in the character of our young people. It is confirmed through the behaviors of this fine group of marching artists. You are ALL (Administrators, District Office personnel and School Board members) invited to join us at any parade in the future. Just let me know if you are interested, and I will contact you with the details of the upcoming season.*

### **Spring Play: *Twelfth Night***

Performances April 20-22 2023

Director: Debb Bestland

Tech Director: Greg Bestland

*Twelfth Night* is a comedy by William Shakespeare. The script we used came from Shakespeare Outloud, a company providing free scripts to students and classrooms. We originally planned to do this show in 2020. Three weeks before performance we were shut down due to COVID.

Bringing it back to life required re-thinking some aspects of the work. Our first group of performers were well seasoned actors and actresses, students who had been in the program for several years. That allowed us to have student directive and involvement on every level.

We choose a simpler set which allowed our smaller and less experienced tech students to feel successful and have all the time needed to build it. We had a smaller cast and many of them were inexperienced in BHS Theatre protocols and procedures. They were, with few exceptions, a young crew. We had only three seniors in the show and two of them were first time theatre performers. We had four freshmen in lead parts. Rehearsals were spent teaching terminology and theatre expectations. It was exciting to watch as they moved from a beginner understanding to experienced actors. We had 17 students in the show. Several shared events such as softball and track, but we were able to make it work so that they could experience live theatre. An additional 13 students worked on tech.

Kim Atkins and Jodi Klaphake were a great help in getting costumes upgraded from our own supplies. This meant we didn't have to rent anything. Some items were purchased, but most were straight from our closet with a little sewing and creative thinking. Kim Atkins also helped with the program and pictures for the students. H.D. (Tracy Hagstrom Durant) worked with Andrea Krinke and other parents to help set up and supply intermission for the three performances. We had between 150-200 in our audiences each night.

It was a pleasure working with these students. Walking backstage nightly during the performance, students were still rehearsing lines and developing character. It was impressive to see such commitment. Two seniors shared with the cast they wished they had started sooner. They truly enjoyed the show. Others talked about next year and what they could do to become better. That makes us excited for the future of theatre here at BHS.

Some issues that need looking into:

- The rigging broke and we had to find ways to get bars up off the floor.
- Music events nearly overwhelmed us. It was hard to work in enough rehearsal times with events and snow days etc.
- We were not able to pay for the royalty due to Canadian ownership of the script. This was embarrassing for us. We are still working this through.
- It was frustrating to work without a budget or knowledge of what remained.

These are ongoing issues for us in the BHS Theatre Community.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with the students.

