

Fall Athletics End of the Season Report 2025

This report is an overview of each sport, the number of participants, the cost to run the program, an academic review of the fall sports season and the clubs and activities in place.

The report shows that participation in sports was similar to last Fall season.

From an operating perspective, expenses decreased slightly.

A few highlights of the season are below:

- Our Boys Soccer program had a record of 13-4-2 and battled all the way to the CIAC Class L Quarterfinals!
- Girls Diver, Savannah Tarascio, was crowned the CCC South Conference Champion.
- Our Football team, under a brand new coaching staff, finished the regular season 7-3 and earned a spot in the CIAC Class MM Quarterfinal game!
- We had 17 varsity students recognized as All-CCC Conference team members, and a special shout-out to our All-State Recipient: Sophomore Boys Soccer student-athlete Andrew Edwards.
- Boys Soccer Student-Athlete, Andrew Edwards was also named to the All New England Team.
- Most importantly, 70 out of 118 Varsity student-athletes achieved an 87.5 GPA or higher in the first marking period. That means 60% of our Varsity student athletes.
- Our two scholar athletes for the fall season were Senior Boys Cross Country student-athlete, Matthew Kriger with a 98.57 GPA and senior Volleyball student-athlete, Olivia Parslow also with a 99.29 GPA.

Thank you!

High School Sports Narratives

Football Coach, Dario Highsmith:

The 2025 Middletown High School football season marked a significant turnaround, improving from a 3–7 record in 2024 to 7–4 in 2025, reflecting a four-win increase and a much higher level of competitiveness. The team showed clear gains in player productivity, increasing scoring by over 100 points while cutting points allowed by more than 100, demonstrating growth on both offense and defense. Just as importantly, the program emphasized accountability and student achievement, with five players earning All-Academic honors and no players removed due to academic ineligibility. Overall, the 2025 season reflects a positive shift in culture, performance, and academic responsibility, positioning the program for sustained success.

Girls Soccer Coach, Shawn Murdock:

The MHS Girls Soccer team posted a 3 win, 1 draw, 12 loss record this season. The Dragons were a young team that featured 14 Freshmen and new players. The team was led by Senior Captains Gabby Butler and Hailey Fitting, and Junior Goalkeeper Maya Martin. Gabby Butler earned All-CCC honors after scoring 16 goals on the season.

Boys Soccer Team, Coach Sal Emanuele:

The MHS Boys Soccer Team finished the regular season with an overall record of 11 wins, 3 losses, and 2 ties. They won their first and second round home State Tournament games and made it to the CIAC Class L State Tournament Quarterfinals for the second time in three years. The team was also one of eight teams that qualified for the CCC tournament and had a home game as the fourth ranked team in the thirty team CCC going into the tournament. The team also had four student athletes named All CCC South, two student athletes named All CCC, one Senior Bowl selection, and a number of student athletes that made CCC All Academic.

Fall Cheer Club Coach, Lindsay Hansen:

MHS Fall cheer successfully completed the season with both JV and Varsity participants. Cheerleaders completed all designated games doing both sideline and half time routines. Fall cheer also successfully completed fundraisers, tumbling sessions, and senior night events. Cheerleaders worked on leveling up their stunting and movement skills to prepare themselves for the next season.

Girls Swim & Dive Coach, Trevor Charles:

The Girls Swimming and Diving team had a bit of a rebuilding year with a 6-5 season record and unprecedeted low numbers. We finished 3rd in the CCC South. The team managed to send 8 girls to Class L States, 7 qualifying in individual events, as well as 3 relays qualifying. Most members had lifetime personal best performances throughout the season.

Girls Cross Country Coach, Jennifer Price:

The girls cross country team had seven new athletes join the team this season. Although the team was inexperienced, they showed tremendous growth throughout the season. Every athlete improved their performances from the early meets to the end of season meets. I am hoping that the growth continues and we can get our numbers higher. The team's record was 6-12.

Boys Cross Country Coach, Robert Weston:

Once again, the team worked extremely hard all season and came away with many positive results because of it. We had a drastically faster team than last year, with five guys under 20 minutes, three under 19 minutes, and even one, Adler Greenwald, under 18 minutes. We had our highest finish in the conference regular season, conference championship, and state meet than we've had in five years. Also, for the first time in five years, we had an All-Conference runner in Adler Greenwald. We still have more work to do, but given the team's improvement, emerging leadership, and based on what we accomplished this season, I know we have many more good things to come.

Girls Volleyball Coach, Kelvin Jones:

The MHS Volleyball team finished the 2025 regular season with a 6-11 record. We fell short of our goal and expectations to advance to the CIAC tournament by 1 win.. With the graduation of several student athletes at the varsity level and the improvement of our younger players, the coaches are looking forward to this progression and a successful season in 2026 in the CIAC CLASS LL division.

Fall Dance Club Coach, Marisa Bishop & Caitlin Nelson:

Fall Crew Club Coach Scot Peaslee, Melina Metaxas, Hannah Breton, Jeremy Grimes:

Unified Soccer: Cindy Culp:

During our Unified Soccer season, our athletes faced some challenges. We had 2 tournaments canceled due to weather, or team sickness. However we were able to make our tournament to Conard High School in West Hartford, where the team excelled on the field and played united together. This season was full of fun and laughs with some new faces.

MS Boys Soccer: Kevin Benzi:

The 2025 boys' soccer season was an outstanding success, driven by a dedicated group of 13 eighth graders who consistently led by example. The varsity team finished with an impressive record of 9–1–1, while the junior varsity team posted an equally strong 10–1 season.

From the first week of preseason, it was clear that this group was special. Their work ethic, team chemistry, leadership, and commitment to one another were evident from day one. They were eager to learn, and I was motivated to coach them. Every player contributed to our collective success and demonstrated remarkable growth from the first practice to the final game.

It was a pleasure and an honor to lead this fine group of men each and every day and I look forward to continuing to build on this momentum in the 2026 season.

MS Girls Soccer: Kieran Shippee:

Although the season ended with a challenging 0-7-1 record, the girls' soccer team showed incredible promise and resilience. We fielded a young and talented roster, starting five sixth graders and five seventh graders alongside just one eighth grader. Looking ahead, the program is in excellent shape; we are set to return ten starters, all of whom sharpen their skills year-round with local premier clubs. This dedication suggests a very bright future for girls' soccer in Middletown

MS Boys Cross Country: S. McKeever:

The program has been increasing in popularity over the past few years. This fall we had close to 30 boys participating. The boys did not win any dual meets this year, but did finish fourth in the MMSL conference meet. We had runners compete at the State Championships and performed very well. Alden Comeau placed 2nd overall out of 397 at the A race that day.

MS Girls Cross Country: K. Agogliati:

This fall we had close to 50 girls participating. The girls record was 5-4 and placed 3rd at the MMSL conference meet. We had runners compete at the State Championships and performed very well. Lucca Pickman placed 2nd out of 283 girls in the B race.

FALL 2025 OVERALL TEAM RECORDS

<u>MHS</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>	<u>Ties</u>
Volleyball	6	11	
Girls Soccer	3	12	1
Boys Soccer	14	3	2
Girls Swimming	6	5	
Football	7	4	
Girls Cross Country	6	12	
Boys Cross Country	9	9	
Unified Soccer	n/a		

Beman

Boys Soccer	9	1	1
Girls Soccer	0	7	1
Boys Cross Country	0	9	
Girls Cross Country	5	4	

Academic Review---2025 Fall Sports Season

All student-athletes in grades 9-12 were reviewed for compliance to Middletown High School's eligibility policy. In accordance with district policy, final grades from the previous school year served as the criteria in the review process. Student-athletes who had met CIAC eligibility standards, but had received one or more failing grades were subject to the review process. As is the case with all athletic seasons, all interscholastic teams were required to hold supervised study halls in some capacity for student-athletes throughout the season.

Team-by team results of the Academic Review process are summarized in the following table:

	Number Of Student Athletes Subject To Academic Review	Number Of Student Athletes Meeting MHS Criteria For Continuing Participation	Number Of Student Athletes Who Failed To Meet MHS Criteria For Continuing Participation
Boys XC	0	0	0
Girls XC	0	0	0
Football	3	3	0
Boys Soccer	0	0	0
Girls Soccer	1	1	0
Girls Swim/Dive	0	0	0
Volleyball	0	0	0
Cheerleading	3	3	0
Dance	0	0	0
Crew	0	0	0
Unified	0	0	0
Total	7	7	0

The Academic Review process is designed to support students and encourage them to strive for academic success. Often, a student's desire to play a sport or engage in extracurricular activities will spark the effort and focus necessary for improvement in the classroom. Athletics are a valuable part of the high school experience; Middletown Public Schools is committed to using sports as partners in the educational process.

MHS 2025
FALL ATHLETICS
PARTICIPATION

SPORT	MIDDLE SCHOOL								HIGH SCHOOL											
	SIXTH		SEVENTH		EIGHTH		TOTALS		NINTH		TENTH		ELEVENTH		TWELFTH		TOTALS		GRAND TOTAL	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
Boys X-Country	8	10	8	10	6	8	22	28	4	4	2	5	5	3	3	3	14	15	36	43
Girls X-Country	10	14	17	16	4	17	31	47	0	2	2	3	1	3	4	3	7	11	38	58
Football	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	14	22	10	16	14	18	10	73	48	73	48
Boys Soccer	5	2	13	8	6	13	24	23	15	9	9	12	13	9	6	12	43	42	67	65
Girls Soccer	10	8	4	8	8	5	22	21	2	9	3	3	4	6	7	4	16	22	38	43
Girls Swimming	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	4	2	5	4	5	7	17	15	17	15
Volleyball	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	19	12	12	13	7	9	10	50	48	50	48
Unified Sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	1	3	4	1	8	8	8	8
***Crew									7	14	17	10	6	16	9	7	39	47	39	47
***Dance									2	1	6	3	4	6	2	4	14	14	14	14
***Fall Cheer									4	3	8	4	2	10	2	5	16	22	16	22
TOTALS	33	34	42	42	24	43	99	119	71	78	87	67	70	81	69	66	297	292	396	411

***Fall Club

2025 FALL ATHLETICS EXPENSES

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>*OPERATING EXPENSES</u>	<u>GENERATED INCOME</u>	<u>NUMBER of COACHES</u>		<u>TOTAL SALARIES</u>			
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>		
Football	\$14,053	\$ 17,739	\$6,115	\$ 7,512	7	7	\$46,879	\$48,284
*Helmet/pad reconditioning - last year's amount \$6,053 - still waiting for 2025 invoice								
-Police	\$ 4,997	\$ 4,803						
-Ambulance	\$ 2,550	\$ 2,550						
-Doctor/PA	\$ 1,188	\$ 1,500						
Boys Soccer	\$ 6,104	\$ 9,647	\$ 496	\$ 1,097	3	3	\$16,767	\$17,269
MS Boys Soccer	\$ 1,307	\$ 2,892	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 3,759	\$ 3,872
Girls Soccer	\$ 4,369	\$ 4,327	\$ 475	\$ 543	1	1	\$ 7,135	\$ 7,439
MS Girls Soccer	\$ 1,198	\$ 3,707	\$ 0	\$ 0	2	1	\$ 5,259	\$ 3,872
Volleyball	\$11,413	\$ 5,654	\$1,995	\$ 2,016	3	3	\$16,767	\$17,359
Girls Swimming	\$10,179	\$ 3,264	\$ 0	\$ 0	3	3	\$21,923	\$22,580
Boys X-Country	\$ 1,259	\$ 995	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 6,239	\$ 6,426
MS X-Country(B/G)	\$ 857	\$ 560	\$ 0	\$ 0	4	2	\$10,518	\$ 7,744
Girls X-Country	\$ 1,259	\$ 870	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 6,239	\$ 6,426
Cheerleading	\$ 2,237	\$ 2,752	\$ 0	\$ 0	2	2	\$11,951	\$12,255
Unified Sports	\$ 73	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,494
Strength/Conditioning	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	0	\$ 6,239	\$ 0
Athletic Training	\$ 7,512	\$ 3,373	\$ 0	\$ 0				
Security: MHS	\$12,216	\$ 16,064						
: Beman	\$ 1,177	\$ 877						
***Miscellaneous	\$27,119	\$ 19,464	\$ 0	\$ 0				
Transportation	\$41,892	\$ 42,645	\$ 0	\$ 0				
TOTALS	\$152,959	\$143,683	\$9,081	\$ 11,168	30	26	\$161,125	\$155,020

*Operating Expenses- Includes officials, uniforms, equipment, supplies and game personnel.

***Miscellaneous includes awards, administrative supplies, office supplies, dues & fees.

2025-2026 MHS Activity/Clubs

<u>Club/Activity</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
Art Show	Christian Kennedy & Catherine Lender
DECA	Dave Reynolds
Assistant DECA	Vivian Sheen
Drama	Jillian Kellogg
Dragon Watch	May Ellen Molski
Drumline	Adam Finkelstein
FFA (Future Farmers)	Rebecca Isaacson, Mike Kingsbury & Amanda Thomson
Freshmen/Sophomore Class	Courtney Stone
Gender, Sexuality Alliance	Trevor Charles
Junior Class	Jenn Price
Key Club	Nicole Charles
Majorette, Flag Corps, Color Guard	Abbey Barrows
Model UN/Debate Club	Dan Lowry
Musical Club	Jillian Kellogg
National Honor Society	Mary Ellen Molski
Newspaper (Blueprint) Club	Ann Buchanan
Pre-Med Club	Roberta Downer

Robotics Club	Sam Faulkenberry
Senior Class	Lauren Pszczolkowski
Assistant Junior/Senior Class	Beth Shapiro
Tri-M Music Honor Society	Stephanie Zak
Yearbook Club	Jenn Price

2025-2026 MHS Non Stipend Activity/Clubs

And Sometimes Y - Creative Arts Magazine	Dave Frankel
Environmental Club	Jeff Mickiewicz
FBLA	Stephanie Latif
Investment Club	Tyler Saunders
Judo Club	Pam Hinkle
Latinos Unidos	Yadiel Rodriguez
4-H Club	Amanda Thomson

2025-2026 Beman Activity/Clubs

Drama Coach	Kaylin Tulley
Majorette, Flag Corps & Color Guard	Megan Busath
Music Coach	Kaylin Tulley
Pride Patrol	John Geary

Student Council	John Geary
Yearbook Club	Amber Baumgartner
<u>2025-2026 Beman Non Stipend Activity/Clubs</u>	
Gay, Straight Alliance	Tom Pattavina

2025 MHS Fall Coaches

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Coach</u>
MHS Boys Cross Country	Head Coach	Rob Weston
MHS Girls Cross Country	Head Coach	Jenn Price
MHS Football	Head Coach	Dario Highsmith
MHS Football	Assistant Coach	Tyshaun James
MHS Football	Assistant Coach	Hunter Belzo
MHS Football	Assistant Coach	DeAaron Lawrence
MHS Football	Assistant Coach	Stone Belzo
MHS Football	Assistant Coach	Brady Foster
MHS Football	Assistant Coach	Maxwell Cyr
MHS Boys Soccer	Head Coach	Sal Emanuele
MHS Boys Soccer	Assistant Coach	Robert Smernoff
MHS Boys Soccer	Assistant Coach	Greg Fanska
MHS Girls Soccer	Head Coach	Shawn Murdock
MHS Girls Swim/Dive	Head Coach	Trevor Charles
MHS Girls Swim/Dive	Assistant Coach	Taylor Garboski
MHS Girls Swim/Dive	Assistant Coach	Dan Kinney
MHS Volleyball	Head Coach	Kelvin Jones
MHS Volleyball	Assistant Coach	Paul Oliva

MHS Volleyball	Assistant Coach	Laurie Robillard
MHS Unified Soccer	Head Coach	Cindy Culp
MHS Fall Cheerleading Club	Head Advisor	Lindsay Hansen
MHS Fall Cheerleading Club	Assistant Advisor	Aaliyah Wright
MHS Fall Dance Club	Head Co-Advisor	Marisa Bishop
MHS Fall Dance Club	Head Co-Advisor	Caitilin Nelson
MHS Fall Crew Club	Fall Co-Advisor	Scot Peaslee
MHS Fall Crew Club	Fall Co-Advisor	Melena Metaxas
MHS Fall Crew Club	Fall Co-Advisor	Hannah Breton
MHS Fall Crew Club	Fall Co-Advisor	Jeremy Grimes

2025 Beman Fall Coaches

Beman Boys Soccer	Head Coach	Kevin Benzi
Beman Girls Soccer	Head Coach	Kieran Shippee
Beman Boys Cross Country	Head Coach	Steve McKeever
Beman Girls Cross Country	Head Coach	Karen Agogliati