

1048 E King Road Tomahawk, WI 54487 Fax: 715-453-6736 Wendell Quesinberry District Administrator (715) 453-5555

# September 2024 - Activities Director Board Report

## Tomahawk High School:

The 2024-2025 School Year at The School District of Tomahawk is off and in full swing! Today is the first day of school for students, with the remaining student body joining them tomorrow for the Official Start of the year. Activities and athletics are all almost fully a month into their respective seasons at the high school level. Football began the year with a hard fought win over Crandon, followed up with a strong test against a traditionally strong football program in Wittenberg-Birnamwood. This week begins the conference portion of the schedule, as Tomahawk travels to fellow new GNC program Wausau East before we get to see some familiar faces and old rivals for the rest of the season. Cross Country finished up their traditional team camp in Bond Falls, MI, followed by their first meet last week at Rhinelander. Per Coach Ahrens, the early season miles were noticeable for the team as they put in a lot of work early in the season to build their base and then they start to taper down as year goes on. He noted at the Rhinelander meet that our energy level was a little down due to the mileage which was expected. Coach Ahrens states the Girls Program should have a strong year, and he is hoping the coachability of the Boys Program will pay dividends by the end of the season as they go after regaining both GNC Conference Championships. Girls' Swimming had their first event under Head Coach Ava Magee, even though the team has low numbers. Coach has noted it is a really fun group of girls to work with, and they are putting forth a good effort day in and day out in the pool. Girls' Swimming numbers are low throughout the area this year as shared by other GNC Activities Directors. Most schools are only carrying between 10-15 students currently. Lastly, Volleyball kicked off their season last week with their traditional trip to UW-Whitewater. The Hatchets competed well, but per Coach Hanse have identified many items they will need to improve on going into GNC Conference play. The beautiful part of this tournament for our school is we get to go down and see high level competition early with larger schools, and learn from the games for improvement when we get back to our gym.

On the Activities front, we ran a "recruiting" event during Link Crew day, the first day of school. Sports and Activities were given an option to come and set up a table during lunch to inform the incoming freshmen about options away from normal sports that are available to them in the high school. We will be evaluating how the event went, and work on implementing it stronger in the future on this day for the students. The Drama department will have auditions coming up for the one-act play on Wednesday September 11, as they look to return back to the state competition this fall. The Student Council has been preparing throughout the summer for the upcoming Homecoming festivities, including a new community portion, where the classes will be looking to paint windows on Main Street. We are going very light with this, this year with hopes to grow it in the coming years as Community involvement for the students for the week. Other than that, with faculty turnover, we have a lot of new advisors coming into our activities this year with the new hires, and we are looking at ways to provide more opportunities for our students and their interests through the department for years to come.

### Upcoming Dates - High School Activities (Home Events / Varsity Away):

#### Tues. September 3 - JV Football v. Wittenberg-Birnamwood - 5:00 PM

Thurs. September 5 - JV/V Boys/Girls Cross Country @ Nine Mile Park (Wausau) - 4:30 PM

John Sample SPED Pupil Services 715-453-2106 Mark Schommer Teaching and Learning 715-453-2126 Ryan Huseby THS Principal 715-453-2106 Stacy BolderShTMS PrincipalTE715-453-537171

Sheri Woodall TES Principal 715-453-2126 Ryan Flynn Activities/Pool 715-453-2106 Arland Wingate Building and Grounds 715-453-2106 Thurs. September 5 - Varsity Girls' Swimming @ Lakeland Union - 5:30 PM Thurs. September 5 - JV2/JV/V Volleyball v. Rhinelander - 5:30 PM / 7:00 PM Fri. September 6 - Varsity Football @ Wausau East - 7:00 PM Sat. September 7 - Varsity Volleyball @ DC Everest Invitational - 9:00 AM Mon. September 9 - JV Football v. Wausau East - 5:30 PM Tues. September 10 - JV/Varsity Volleyball @ Crandon - 5:30 PM / 7:00 PM Thurs. September 12 - Varsity Girls' Swimming v. Mosinee - 5:30 PM Thurs. September 12 - JV2/JV/V Volleyball v. Lakeland Union - 5:00 PM / 7:00 PM Fri. September 13 - Varsity Football v. Antigo - 7:00 PM Sat. September 14 - JV/Varsity Boys/Girls Cross Country @ Menomonie Relays - 9:30 AM Tues. September 17 - JV2/JV/V Volleyball @ Antigo - 5:00 PM / 7:00 PM Thurs. September 19 - Varsity Girls Swimming @ Antigo (Clara R. McKenna Aquatic Center) - 5:30 PM Fri. September 20 - Varsity Football v. Rhinelander -7:00 PM Sat. September 21 - JV/Varsity Boys/ Girls Cross Country @ Smiley Invitational - TBD Sat. September 21 - Varsity Volleyball @ GNC Meet #1 ~ Lakeland Union - 10:00 AM Tues. September 24 - JV2/JV/Varsity Volleyball v. Lakeland Union - 5:00 PM / 7:00 PM (Parents Night) Thurs. September 26 - JV/Varsity Boys/Girls Cross Country @ Three Lakes - 4:00 PM Thurs. September 26 - Varsity Volleyball v. Home Quad - 4:00 PM Thurs. September 26 - Varsity Girls' Swimming v. Medford - 5:30 PM Fri. September 27 - Varsity Football @ Mosinee - 7:00 PM Mon. September 30 - JV Football v. Mosinee - 5:30 PM Tues. October 1 - JV2/JV/V Volleyball @ Mosinee - 5:00 PM / 7:00 PM Thurs. October 3 - JV2/JV/V Volleyball v. Northland Pines - 5:30 PM / 7:00 PM (Dig Pink Night) Thurs. October 3 - JV/Varsity Boys/Girls Cross Country @ Athens - 4:30 PM Thurs. October 3 - Varsity Girls Swimming v. Rhinelander - 5:30 PM Fri. October 4 - Varsity Football v. Medford - 7:00 PM (HOMECOMING) Tues. October 8 - JV2/JV/Varsity Volleyball @ Medford - 5:00 PM / 7:00 PM

### **Tomahawk Middle School:**

Participation numbers are up for all three of our Middle School Sports this fall. Football was the first to get going with the Calendar switch this year, as they played their first game last week against Northland Pines with the 7th Grade losing 0-6 and 8th grading losing 0-8 respectively. Due to the high numbers in football this season, we will be taking two buses to away games because we cannot fit all of the players on the one bus. This is a great problem to have for our district, and hopefully the students continue to get a great experience and come out for the high school program in the coming years. Similar to football, the volleyball and cross country numbers are both up as well. The volleyball team will be splitting their A and B matches as a grade to keep students together for a positive experience which has allowed us to maintain our four scheduled games for volleyball this fall. Last fall, we only played the A schedule for both grades, so again hopefully the students gain experience and have some fun to carry over into the high school program. Cross Country also had a nice jump in participation numbers this fall underneath Head Coach Justin Lund. The girls side is the returning Middle School Conference Champions and will look to defend their title at Antigo this year. The boys have an improved number of first time runners as they look to represent the school as well this fall. Both those programs will be seeing their first competition this first week of school after starting practice last week.

John Sample SPED Pupil Services 715-453-2106 Mark Schommer Teaching and Learning 715-453-2126 Ryan Huseby THS Principal 715-453-2106 Stacy BolderSTMS PrincipalT715-453-53717

Sheri Woodall TES Principal 715-453-2126 Ryan Flynn Activities/Pool 715-453-2106 Arland Wingate Building and Grounds 715-453-2106 We were also approved at the Middle School WVC/GNC Meeting to allow 6th Graders to join our Middle School Basketball programs this winter. Due to our low numbers and decreasing participation in basketball, I made this request to give students an opportunity to have practice every day during the short middle school season, along with the available resources to try and get more students involved with the basketball program. I am hoping this will allow us to have three boys teams this winter to fill three out of the four scheduled games. On the girls side, this should allow us to provide one, and hopefully two teams for the girls. Based on current numbers with girls basketball in middle school, we may not have had enough sign up to put out one team this winter. I am thankful the other middle school ADs recognized what I was requesting and voted unanimously for us to create a hybrid model for our students in our community.

#### **Upcoming Dates - Middle School Activities (Home Events):**

Mon. September 16 - 7th/8th Grade Volleyball v. Medford - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM Tues. September 17 - 8th Grade Football v. Amherst - 4:30 PM Thurs. September 19 - 7th / 8th Grade Volleyball v. Merrill - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM Thurs. September 26 - 7th/8th Grade Volleyball v. Elcho - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM Mon. September 30 - 7th / 8th Grade Volleyball v. Mosinee - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM Tues. October 1 - 7th / 8th Grade Football v. Merrill - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM Thurs. October 3 - 7th / 8th Grade Volleyball v. Horace Mann - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM

### **Activities Director Notes:**

We have had an increase in lifeguards in the district. We will still have to work around the students schedules when opening the pool as most of our lifeguards are involved in a Fall Sport or Activity, but thankfully we should be able to offer more openings this year for the public based on the increased lifeguard availability. Taylor Remington through her Community Education program has taken over the Water Aerobics classes to be run through that program. We have successfully secured a community lifeguard to cover all of these dates during the first semester.

As always, if you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact me at anytime!

#### **GO HATCHETS!**

Report Respectfully Submitted by: Ryan Flynn Activities, Recreation, and Pool Director Tomahawk School District Work Phone: (715) 453 - 2106 ext. 205 Cell Phone: (715) 966 - 3953 Email: flynnr@myhatchets.org

John Sample SPED Pupil Services 715-453-2106 Mark Schommer Teaching and Learning 715-453-2126 Ryan Huseby THS Principal 715-453-2106

Stacy Bolder TMS Principal 715-453-5371 Sheri Woodall TES Principal 715-453-2126

Ryan Flynn Activities/Pool 715-453-2106 Arland Wingate Building and Grounds 715-453-2106