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October 2023 - Activities Director Board Report

Tomahawk High School:

We are nearing the end of our 2023 Fall Sports Seasons with the WIAA tournament series beginning in the next couple of weeks. Football has a chance of still qualifying for the playoffs based on the results of Week 9. If Tomahawk can get a win against Clintonville in our final conference game, it will put us at a 3-4 Conference Record and come down to computer tiebreakers if we make the playoff field. It was a tough month for the Hatchets as we lost an overtime game, double overtime game, and a couple key injuries throughout the month. Volleyball is currently sitting in second place in the GNC overall. Depending on the 2nd lag of the conference tournament we are hosting Saturday October 7, it will determine final finish and our seeding. Based on our current record, I believe we will host a regional game on Tuesday October 17, and potentially another round on Thursday October 19 before hitting the road in the tournament series. Cross Country will host the 47th Hatchet Invite on Saturday October 7, and then will go to Mosinee for the conference meet, and sectionals in Colby the following weekend. The girls' cross country team is posed to contend for a state berth at Colby as the Lady Hatchets have had a strong fall thus far. Girls' Swimming ran into a week of illness that has affected their results from the beginning of the year. Even though having small team numbers, they continue to find ways to compete at a high level. Their Sectional Meet will be in Merrill on Saturday November 4 and if all things hold true, we should have some state qualifiers for the state meet the following Friday. Winter Sports will be starting Monday November 6, and the rest of the month we will be gearing up our Winter Sports to hit the ground running and to compete in the GNC this winter.

The Student Council ran an amazing homecoming this past week for the district under Nichol Feltes. The students were a little disappointed in the weather and inability to play flag football, but the female student body did a great job competing in dodgeball and believe they had a lot of fun doing so. The One-Act play will be hosting the District Theatre on Saturday October 14 with 5 schools competing. Tomahawk will hit the stage first at 8:00 AM. Michelle Balda and Connor Ahrens (Cross Country Coach) have worked together to share an athlete between the two activities. With the conference cross country meet that day, Michelle worked to set the schedule so that an individual is able to participate in both. I really appreciate the work by these two on giving our students more opportunities and hope as a department we can build that trend in the future so students are allowed to participate in more opportunities our district offers. High School Choir is gearing up for their first performance of the year on Monday October 23, and the band did an excellent job as always at the homecoming halftime show.

Upcoming Dates - High School Activities (Home Events):

Thursday October 12 - Girls' Swimming v. Lakeland Union (Tomahawk Pool) - 5:30 PM

Friday October 13 - Varsity Football v. Clintonville (Hatchet Field) - 7:00 PM

Saturday October 14 - One - Act Play hosting District Theatre (Tomahawk Auditorium) - Tomahawk's Performance is at 8:00 AM on the main stage.

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Saturday October 14 - Varsity Boys' and Girls' Cross Country @ Nine Mile Park - GNC Conference Meet - 11:00 AM

Tuesday October 17 - Varsity Volleyball v. WIAA Tournament - TBD

Thursday October 19 - Varsity Volleyball v. WIAA Tournament - TBD

Friday October 20 - Varsity Girls' Swimming @ Clara R McKenna Aquatic Center (Antigo) - GNC Meet - 5:00 PM

Saturday October 21 - Varsity Cross Country @ Colby - WIAA Sectional Meet - 2:45 PM

Monday October 23 - High School Choir Concert (Auditorium) - 7:00 PM

Saturday October 28 - WIAA State Cross Country Meet @ Ridges Golf Course - Wisconsin Rapids - TBD

Saturday November 4 - Varsity Girls' Swimming @ Merrill - WIAA Sectional Meet - 1:00 PM

Monday November 6 - THS Girls' Basketball and Boys' Hockey Practice Begins

Saturday November 11 - GNC Band and Choir Concert @ Lakeland Union

Monday November 13 - THS Boys' Basketball, Boys' Swimming and Wrestling Practice Begins

Tomahawk Middle School:

The Fall 2023 seasons for TMS will be wrapping up in the coming days. It was a very successful fall for our Middle School sports. The coaches have provided a good experience for the kids and really hope their strong numbers carry over into the high school programs. 8th Grade football will be looking to finish the year undefeated, while the 7th grade team has shown great improvement from week one until now and will be looking to finish the season with a winning record. The Cross Country teams have shown improvement throughout the fall. The TMS Girls' Cross Country team won the GNC Middle School Meet with 7th Grader Cherlee Lund taking home the Middle School GNC individual title in the process. TMS Volleyball has been very adaptable throughout the season with their lower 7th grade numbers by playing in 5 set games v. 3 set games so they are able to see the court more. According to both Coach Emily and Katie Pierce, this group of students are showing a strong potential for the future in the program and have been wonderful to coach throughout the season. Lastly, Middle School Boys' Basketball will be beginning this month, and running up until Winter break to finish out the first semester of athletics in the middle school setting.

Just like their high school counterparts, the middle school will be having a bunch of choir and band concerts coming up over the next month that align with their curriculum. There will also be the first Middle School Dance of the year coming up this month for the Middle School Students.

Upcoming Dates - Middle School Activities (Home Events):

Monday October 16 - Middle School Boys' Basketball Practice Begins

Friday October 20 - Middle School Dance - 3:30 PM

Tuesday October 24 - 7th/8th Grade Band/Choir Concert (Tomahawk Auditorium) - 7:00 PM

Monday November 6 - 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball v. Northland Pines (High School Gym) - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM

Monday November 6 - 6th Grade Band/Choir Concert (Auditorium) - 7:00 PM

Tuesday November 5 - 7th/8th Grade Boys' Basketball v. Rhinelander (High School Gym) - 4:00 PM / 5:00 PM

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Activities Director Notes:

- Strategic Planning
 - Strategic Planning plan is set for the year. I will be doing mostly benchmark data and collecting as much information as I can over the course of the year to identify what we are providing, how we are providing it, and how we can improve it for the future. I will mainly be looking at increasing participation in activities and clubs, while also identifying why so many students are migrating towards 1-2 offerings only. Based on information gathered, I am hoping to start developing a protocol that promotes student mental health and engagement without burning students out based on what we are currently doing.
- Tomahawk Swimming Pool
 - Been working with Youth Swim to set up their home meet on Saturday December 9. Waiting for the hire of our new community position to move forward on water exercise classes. I have reached out multiple times to YMCA of the Northwoods with no direct reply on their potential involvement for more community programming.
 - We have an upcoming lifeguard course provided by Kelly Tollefson, we are working on getting more adults certified as lifeguards to provide classes throughout the day and availability of lifeguards.

As always, thank you everyone for your time and efforts in representing our district and giving our students better opportunities of growth as they attend our schools. Remember, I have an open-door policy and you are always more than welcome to stop by or call in regards to anything Activities related in the school district.

Report Respectfully Submitted by:

Ryan Flynn

Activities, Recreation, and Pool Director

Tomahawk School District

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