

**School Board Meeting/Workshop:**

**February 10, 2020**

**Subject:**

**BCMS Fall Activities Report**

**Presenter:**

**John Hayden, BCMS  
Activities Director**

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**SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:**

NONE

**DESCRIPTION:**

I looked back at our Cross Country participation numbers from 2009-10. That year, our numbers rose by seven and we still were only at twenty-two runners. Ten years later, we have doubled that number to forty-four students running this year. Paul Anderson took over this fall as the Lead Coach. Paul had helped Jackie Hillstrom for a few years and when Jackie left our district, Paul was happy to take over for her. This year, I partnered him with Chris Ryan who is a Youth Pastor at a local church. Our Cross Country team had its first taste of running with Lake Conference teams this fall. They found that they were able to compete with the rest of the schools. Our program continues to improve and impress.

Over the years, Girls Tennis has grown in popularity. That trend continued as participation was up to twenty-four this Fall. Coached by Emily Moritz again, the girls were a force in the Mississippi 8 Middle School Conference. Emily is one of the reasons our numbers continue to rise in this sport. Her energy and positive attitude really make this a fun atmosphere for our Girls. As we look toward next year, it would benefit our program to get some games with other Lake Conference Schools.

Like a number of Girls Sports, soccer has seen a decrease in participation in the last ten years. Our numbers have been almost cut in half from sixty-one down to thirty-seven. I view that number as still positive given what has happened to girls participation numbers in the last ten years. Paul Lundberg, partnered with Leslie Miller this year to run our girls program. The two of them make a great pair as Paul takes the competitive A team and has put together a team that always is at the top of conference and Leslie's job is to emphasize basic skills and allow her student/athletes to enjoy the game.

Boys soccer saw a resurgence in participation from the last couple of years. We had thirty-four participants this fall. Thirty-four puts us at the same spot we were at ten years ago. We have fluctuated about ten kids either way throughout the years. Patrick Doyle was our new lead coach this year. Patrick works in the District with kids during the day so it was a good addition to have him come on board. His relationships with kids and parents proved to enhance his ability to help make the season enjoyable for families. Our A team was one of the better teams in the conference this year as well. Our B team was coached by Jay Miller who is a student working on his teaching and coaching degrees. He did a great job working with our kids as he developed his own style of coaching. It was a fun and successful season for our boys.

Ninety-six football players opened our updated and redone facility out in front of the Middle School. Ten years ago we had about twenty more players. However, over the years we have gone between one hundred and one hundred and twenty. Our coaches appreciated being able to be back out front of the building with all the open space after spending a season trying to find places to practice. The other thing they appreciated was the nice turf they were practicing and playing on. The time spent to improve the facility was well worth it. All of our coaches returned again for the fall. This is by far the most veteran staff I have. I believe four of this fall's coaches were around ten years ago. All but one of them have at least three years of experience in our program. This year our kids didn't have the amount of success in wins and losses as we have in the past, but all coaches said these kids have a lot to look forward as this group really seemed to love the game and being a part of a team which will hopefully encourage them to work hard to get better. The future is bright.

Volleyball continues to be one of our most popular participation sports. This year our numbers were up to eighty-two volleyball players. This is up eight from last year. Huge numbers. However, ten years ago we had 93 girls out. With six girls on the court for a team at a time, you can see this is a lot of girls. We try to make all of our programs meaningful, supportive and enjoyable for our student/athletes. Accomplishing these goals can be difficult with such a large number of kids participating. Over the years, we have tried to play intramural games with the teams that don't travel on a given day. This has worked sometimes and at others it has fallen flat. A year ago, we tried to start an intramural league at Discovery Elementary for kids who are just starting the sport to try to divide the kids up a little more. This was not successful. Coach Nikki Schahn and I continue to try to find answers for this good problem. When on the court competing against other schools, our girls are competitive and hold their own in our conference.

Overall, it was a typically busy fall season. We had very few issues and it seemed like

our kids enjoyed their activities. What issues we had stemmed from the high number of athletes we had participating and parents learning the difference between school sports and youth sports. One way we are trying to communicate more is through our twitter site. The goal is to increase awareness and support for our student/athletes and coaches and recognize the great things that are going on at BCMS. Follow us at @ActivtiesBcms

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- **Participation Report**