

School Board Meeting/Workshop:

September 9, 2013

Subject:

BCMS 2012-13 Spring Activities Report

Presenter:

John Hayden

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

None

DESCRIPTION:

The Spring Activity season always goes by quick. It seems like as fast as it begins after Spring Break, it is over. This past spring was particularly quick. The weather was lousy for the first part of the spring. In my 11 springs here, I never had one like this one. It was very difficult to start the season for our kids. We were not outside for three weeks. The slow start meant that the end was accelerated as we tried to get contests in before it was over.

The number of participants was down from the previous year. Only Baseball saw a large increase from 2011-2012. Baseball went from 55 to 60 participants. That is a large number for four teams. It is a constant struggle to find the correct amount of game time and practice time with so many kids. When you throw in the number of cancellations we had, it was interesting to say the least.

Softball had two new coaches last spring. Eric Cagle and Josh Ortman joined Jen Nichols and Mandy Peterson. Josh and Eric coached the 7th grade and Jen and Mandy coached the 8th. Softball numbers were down significantly. However the big drop came in 7th grade. This particular group of girls have some very strong players. I believe that has caused attrition from others throughout the years at that age level. It was interesting to watch coaches try to NOT score runs because they were beating teams so bad. Yet at times they didn't have enough girls to play two games.

Track saw our numbers go up from 101 to 105. This is a huge number, and as I have said in the past, I believe this contributes to the success of the varsity program. We have four coaches with this number of kids. Our success is a tribute to our great coaches. We hosted two meets, which can be taxing on our high school coaches. They run the meet for us so they do double duty.

Tennis again was coached by Krista Stevens. I can't say enough about how much I appreciate what Krista does for our programs. She coaches both boys and girls. Kids love playing for her and she does a great job teaching and developing young tennis players.

One place the weather had the greatest effect was on our golf program. As the weeks went by and the course was not open, parents began to call and question why their kids were not starting yet. We got to a point of being close to refunding money. However, for the amount that parents paid, their kids were still able to get a lot of time on the course. Our coaches went two weeks later than they were scheduled in order to give kids more opportunities.

The biggest reason for the decline in overall numbers last spring was the lower number of intramurals offered. With the bad spring, we were not able to offer as many opportunities for students as we normally do.

Minnesota is a great state, but the weather can be very interesting. Running an activities department at a time when Minnesota weather can be so volatile is interesting to say the least. Always fun and especially with the staff and kids in our building.

ATTACHMENT(S):

BCMS Spring Participation Report