

School Board Meeting/Workshop:

2/11/2013

Subject:

Middle School Fall Participation Report

Presenter:

John Hayden

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION: None

DESCRIPTION:

The fall season seems like a long time ago. It is our busiest season, and the most enjoyable. Everyone is still excited and full of optimism. I say this every year, but it really does go fast.

This fall was one of our busiest. We had the highest number of participants since I have been here. Four hundred and fifty two tops our previous high by fifty. Those high numbers were lead by one hundred and sixty eight kids playing football. Volleyball reached one hundred and twenty five participants. Those numbers were both record highs for those sports. Our soccer numbers were down, but still high enough to keep things busy.

Coaching middle school sports can sometimes qualify people for hazard pay. In a lot of schools, middle school coaches are people who are trying to climb the ladder to the varsity. We are lucky at BCMS because our coaches are genuine about their desire to work with this age of kid. Low turnover means we are able to focus on finding someone to coach, and more on continuing to grow the program.

At the end of the fall, I sent a survey out to parents of middle school students who have had children who were in a middle school activity. The survey was very favorable with one area to continue to improve on. Parents reported liking the price of participation, their coaches, the number of contests and the overall experience. The area of communication was listed as a place to focus on moving forward. The challenge of communicating all the cancelations, schedule changes, team assignments, field locations and game times with four hundred families is a tough one. We recognize that and have continued to make it a priority within our department.

It was a great fall. The weather got cold earlier than in other years, but the energy and excitement kids brought to our programs were higher than I remember in many years. They say that the fall sports season dictates how the year in general will go. That held true so far as our school year and our winter sports season have both been very positive and energetic.

ATTACHMENT(S):

2012-2013 BCMS Fall Participation Report