

# OKEMOS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

1. Course Title: **Sports Literature**
2. Course Developer(s): **Ben Woodcock**
3. Have the following reviewed this proposal?
  - a. Area Coordinator **X**
  - b. District-Wide Coordinator
  - c. Appropriate Building Representatives
  - d. Principal
4. School where this course will be implemented: **Okemos High School**
  - a. Course Implementation Starting Date: **2025 to 2026 School Year**
5. Regular Program or Pilot: **Regular**
6. Required Course/Elective Course: **Required Senior Elective (English Credit)**
7. Evidence of need or interest:

When prompted about topics they are interested in or activities that they are busy with outside of the classroom, the majority of Okemos High School students share that they enjoy sports as a player and/or fan. This course will value the prior knowledge and experiences students have with sports into the English classroom.

This high interest course will have students connecting the Common Core State Standards of reading literature and informational texts, writing and speaking about sports and associated with them in order to earn a half credit of English course material.

8. How does this fit into the core curriculum: **This course will be a semester-long "Senior Elective" for students to take to fulfill half of their fourth credit of ELA for graduation.**
9. Number of students benefited/impacted: **60 students / school year**
10. Credit to be granted: **X Yes**  No
11. Instructional materials to be recommended:

Currently OHS English department has enough materials/copies for a class of 30 students for these titles. If other sections are needed, more copies will be needed:

- **Gym Candy - Carl Dueker**

Additional texts are not needed to get started at this time. If approved, this course would enter into the English department's new textbook rotation.

12. Hands on Materials: **None**
13. Supplies other than textbooks: **None**
14. Estimated Costs: **None**

**PROPOSAL SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO STACY BAILEY, ASST. SUPERINTENDENT FOR INSTRUCTION**

15. Goals (content of course; sequence of course in curriculum):

**Unit 1: What is "sport"?** - Students will be tasked to define, discuss, and determine the definition of "sport". This definition and discussion will lay the foundation and groundwork for the semester.

**Unit 2: Trading Cards** - Students will study the layout, information, statistics, etc. shared on trading cards and then design them for themselves, along with authors, characters, people, etc. studied in the course.

**Unit 3: Independent Reading/Literature Circles Unit** - Students will be able to self select sports-related texts to read independently throughout the semester. They will be provided with time in class to read. Prompts about the book and the topics covered in it will be assigned for analysis, reflection, and discussion.

**Unit 4: Sports Article of the Week** - This unit will involve student interest and interaction with informational texts about the intersection of sports, culture, and society. Students will annotate, reflect, and discuss topics related to the articles each week. Students will be invited to be responsible for selecting at least one article for the class to study.

**Unit 5: Hometown Heroes Writing Portfolio** - Students will read a variety of sports writing ranging from blogging to narratives to video/short films to journalism. Various writing moves will be identified, analyzed, and discussed. Students will be invited to write in similar styles and genres utilizing the writing moves featuring "hometown heroes" and their stories and perspectives.

**Unit 6: *Gym Candy* and Exploring Sport-Related Topic Research Project** - Students will be assigned to read *Gym Candy* by Carl Deuker, a story about "high school football, self-acceptance, and the pressures that come with being the best at any cost." After reading and discussing topics covered in the book, students will launch into a sports-related research project about a topic of choice complete with a research paper, works cited, and presentation.

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Principal Signature

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Date