

School Board Workshop:

September 9 , 2024

Subject:

BCMS Spring Activities Report

Presenter:

**John Hayden, BCMS Asst. Principal/
Activities Director**

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

None

DESCRIPTION:

As nice of a winter as we had, we had an equally bad spring for sports. On the first week we were supposed to start spring sports practices, we got a large amount of snow. Our start was delayed and it never seemed to really gave us an opportunity to get into a rhythm for our events. We seemed to have cancellations all the way to the end of the season.

Baseball numbers were up from the low we experienced in Spring of 2023. Last year some issues unrelated to baseball kept almost all of our 7th graders out of BCMS baseball. I met with a number of people and was able to work with them to create a partnership like we have had for so many years. While our 8th grade numbers were not as good as they should be, that group did start to come back. Last spring, we still combined our 7th and 8th graders to create one A team and one B team. We hope to have overcome our numbers concerns this upcoming spring as the low class will now be 9th graders. Between the weather and the low numbers, it had the potential to be a very chaotic spring. However, Corey Moore did a great job of organizing both the coaching staff and the players. Corey has a huge heart for kids and coaching. Baseball was the fourth season he coached for us in the 2023-2024 school year.

Once again we were able to keep **softball** on campus last spring. We got lucky while looking for a softball coach when Christine Steinbach needed to step down from her high school coaching position. She still had a desire to coach but family circumstances prevented her from being in the more time consuming varsity program. She has a lot of experience and took over our program with ease and a big smile. Our kids had a great experience under her guidance. Unfortunately, as things happen at the middle school level, Christine will not be back as she accepted a job elsewhere. As both baseball and softball numbers are growing, field space is becoming an issue. However, this summer we were able to get the field behind BCMS moved and with all the rain this summer it should have no issues being ready for play in the spring. This will be a huge asset to our softball program.

Track numbers dropped a little bit last spring. The interesting thing is that it was the boys that caused that drop in registrations. The girls' numbers went up. I don't worry

about our numbers of boys in track long term. The numbers have always been there and I don't see a reason why that changed last spring. Scheduling for Track has become a little more difficult as we are trying to schedule more within the Lake Conference. Over the last two years we have made some headway getting on the schedule with a number of those schools. It will only make our program better.

Caleb Quernemoen took over the **boys tennis** program last spring. Caleb is a young teacher who comes with a strong tennis background. We were lucky to get him to coach because he also became a new dad during the school year. Our tennis numbers were down but the quality was strong. Caleb commented on how well our boys performed all spring and the belief that the program is going to continue to grow.

Because we limit the number of participants, **golf** numbers remain the same. If we would allow 100 kids on the course, we could probably fill it. Again Buffalo Heights proved to be a great partner for our kids. They welcome them and allow them to feel as though they belong. Paul Lundberg and Eggers coached the team. I didn't think Stacy would be interested in coaching in the spring as she had just come off a draining varsity basketball season. However, she did and reported that she really enjoyed the change of pace from varsity sports. This remains one of our best products that we offer.

Spring season goes fast. Last year the weather made it seem long because we were always trying to catch up. Our numbers were a little down from the year before, but still strong. Overall our year end numbers were very good. We had close to half of our school somehow engage with the Activities Department. It is exciting to continue to put programs out there that kids are enjoying and are helping them grow into young adults.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Spring Sports Participation Report 2023-24