

Athletics/Activities Report
Board Report
September-October

Napi Athletics

Football

Football we had a good season with the 4th grade and 5th grade teams. Unfortunately, we didn't have equipment for all of our kids. We had 4 kids that needed XXL helmets which is bigger than a majority of our High school students. We hosted a great jamboree that most of our conference appreciated. We had to withdraw from the Lewistown jamboree due to bus drivers availability and for other reasons such as departing at 5:30am and getting that age up at that time. We have not attended Lewistown's jamboree for 2 years that I know of. It is stated in our conference by-laws that we need to show up to all jamborees hosted by each team.

Cross Country

We have been having a great season with the Napi level cross country despite a few coaching mishaps. Miscommunication has become an issue and we are having liability issues that came up from the Principal and other coaches. Resolving these issues will be in favor of removal.

Middle School Athletics

Football

We had a huge incident with our middle school team stealing from our high school team. We recently purchased new Speed helmets from Riddell for the high school and our middle school stole 4 helmets and 8 footballs when middle school hosted their home games. Having 2 coaches didn't help this situation and our middle school also ransacked the high school teams lockers. Shoes, chin straps, and shirts were stolen from the middle school and we couldn't find out who they were because no one confessed to stealing. Each helmet is worth \$600 which comes up to \$2,400 and the footballs are \$125 each coming up to \$1,000. All together the middle school football team stole \$3,400 dollars worth of items that belonged to the high school. My resolution to fix this problem is to never let our middle school use the locker rooms at the football field again.

Middle school also had many issues at the Napi and had reports of vandalizing the fence around the Napi field, had altercation with street people, and had serious altercations with each other due to the long walk and wait for practice. The way to resolve this is to make a practice field for the middle school and make sure they could practice near their school. This is vital to resolving these problems that kept occurring at the napi field with the middle school football team.

Cross Country

Middle School cross country has done well and we had a pretty successful season. Our top girl runner is in 7th grade and has won the majority of the races. The implementation of an old college runner to the coaching program helps immensely.

Volleyball

Volleyball had a good season despite one coach resigning mid-way through the season. 2 coaches stepped up and took over to help this practice and the team never skipped a beat because of these 2 coaches.

One concern is, all hosts throughout the season put on jamborees and we do not have a facility that can do this. If we put out two nets in our middle school gym, then we cannot put out our bleachers due to the court intersecting with the bleachers. The next solution is to use the BES gym but the BES gym does not have lines for side courts so we cannot host at that gym as well. We can only put out 1 net at the middle school and BES which leaves us to be able to host one team for games and that doesn't happen anymore in our conference because everyone attends the jamborees. Until we can resolve this seating issue for volleyball it is advised that we do not host.

High School Athletics

Volleyball

Our head coach resigned after the first tip off leaving the kids hanging without a coach. Our assistant coach stepped up for our girls and she has done a great job despite the obstacles placed before her. Her experience kept her on the right track to make sure these 3 teams moved in a positive direction.

My own observation about our 3 teams is, we have a great future in volleyball and we have some young talent coming up. Our only issue is the parent division among these teams and it comes out with verbiage at games and also on social media. I have to mention this parent division because it is a concern.

Cross Country

Cross country has been training well and will be going into the Divisional tourney winning the meet before at Polson. They Boys team took 2nd at the Fall Classic and will be contending for a place or title at state. Our girls have improved and continue to work hard.

Golf

Golf finished up their Divisionals in Hamilton and they all golfed hard. The competition is very good this year for the west and none of our golfers made it to state but gave it their best effort. We are proud of them.

Football

Homecoming was a huge game for our Big Red Machine and we were having huge turnouts for our home games all season. Our football team has many beginners but have been putting up some good fights throughout the year in the new conference. Facing 3 of the better teams in Montana this year, East Helena, Havre, and Fergus will give our football players much needed experience moving forward in the new Central Conference.

Fall Cheer

Cheerleaders had their cheer camp vs the Hardin game and they are a huge factor of why our numbers are up in attendance for football games. The cheer camp was a success with 40 young girls participating in our halftime show for the community and our fans. Cheer has been doing great by implementing a pep club to the home games and students are cheering and engaging. Interest has been circulating on a Pep Club sponsor taking over and activating that club.

Soccer

We have moved to Varsity and we have been struggling trying to compete with other schools. We have been mercy ruled in 11 games out of 12. When the mercy rule is in play we only get to play half a game which hurts development.

This is a huge concern and a reiteration of not having feeder programs at the lower levels. As long as we continue to ask our students to compete with the best in the state while also not creating those opportunities for development, we will be hindering their progression in the sport, while creating forms of depression and anxieties that lead to behavior conflicts between player to player and player to coach. I feel this is a situation the community has put us in by not being involved enough because it is our community that needs to step up to provide these feeder programs. We need to start asking ourselves if we are creating opportunity or are we creating an environment of performance anxiety among our players?

Despite this mental conundrum, most of our kids enjoy soccer and are trying their best to learn. We receive great compliments from the officials and our opponents.

Athletic Directors Number of Hosted Events for Fall Season

21 home hosted Event for all of Fall

Student Activities

The sudden resignation of the Activities Coordinator has made it very difficult for me as the athletic director and having to share these extra responsibilities between my admin assistant and myself. Before the Thursday, Oct. 2nd volleyball game and the Friday, Oct. 3rd homecoming football game my admin assistant got sick and ended up in the hospital. I was in a situation of having to do 3 jobs at once for the Thursday game which was possible for volleyball. I asked the superintendent about making a plan for the football game and we devised a plan, executed gracefully by hosting a homecoming that our kids will remember for years to come. The reason for mentioning all this is we do not have contingency plans for situations like my assistant being gone on game day, for the activities coordinator to be gone on game day, or for the athletic director to be gone on game day. We are evaluating options to create a more foundational and collaborative plan for emergency situations in case of absences from the 3 key positions when hosting events. This contingency plan is crucial when we host 21 events in the fall. *21 events equals 12-16 hour days each including the work day. That can be around 252-336 hours of event time plus a normal work day. 320 hours is a normal work month with the extra 4-8 hours is 84-168 hours.*

Not having an Activities Coordinator also means we will not be opening iikahkimaht after school activities until the job is filled.