

**School Board Meeting:**

**January 12, 2009**

**Subject:**

Fall Season Activities Report

**Presenter:**

**John Hayden**

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**SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:**

None - Report

**DESCRIPTION:**

**BCMS FALL SPORTS WRAP UP**

BCMS has wrapped up a very quick but busy fall sports season. The summer ended abruptly in August with athletes registering at a torrid pace shortly before school started. Once the fall season began, it was extremely fast paced and hectic for most involved. The season began on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> with all sports beginning practice, and ended with the fall break.

The Cross Country season produced mixed results. The runners from BCMS ended up on a high note winning the Mississippi8 end of the year conference meet. All of our runners did a great job of competing hard and pushing themselves to improve their times. The only negative for the team this year was the small amount of females signed up to compete in Cross Country. Overall, new Coach Will Florsheim did an outstanding job of helping these kids learn to enjoy the competition of the sport.

Fall means football to many people. BCMS students proved that theory correct this year again. 113 student/athletes participated in football at 4 different levels. Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade are able to participate with an 'A' team and a 'B' team at each grade level. Four teams and 113 players make for an action filled season. Our 8 football coaches no doubt are the reason for our programs success. Aside from teaching these athletes the fundamentals and intricacies of the game, they also did a great job of getting all football players a fair amount of playing time. The Mississippi8 conference is a very tough football conference at the high school level and that holds true at the middle school level as well. BCMS has always been a program other schools have wanted to emulate. This year's group of players upheld our strong reputation by giving every team a tough physical game at each level.

The BCMS Boys Soccer program was lucky enough to bring back Shelly Hord as a coach this year along with former Big Lake Varsity Coach Chris Hord. Shelly's experience running the BCMS Boys Soccer program combined with Chris' knowledge of coaching soccer lead to very successful season for the 36 boys playing on the two teams. While the M8 is a strong football conference, that strength comes at the expense of boy's soccer in many of the conference's middle schools. BCMS continued to be a force in the conference. The experience gained by the kids this fall should have a very positive effect on the high school program in the very near future.

This year 54 girls participated in soccer. That number is far above other schools in the conference. The girls program was coached by Jana Thorson and Luke Skarin this year. Trying

to make sure their girls developed through game experience this year was difficult at times because of the lack of numbers other schools had. Many times this year BCMS faced another school that fielded just one team. Dealing with field availability issues also proved to be an obstacle for the girls program, having to move two games to the high school due to a lack of field availability at Bentfield/Mills Park. The girl's team also proved to be one of the most competitive in the conference. The high number and quality of players that BCMS had this year will be a great addition to an already solid high school program next year.

More girls came out for tennis this fall than in past years. Coach Theresa Corfman said that this was one of her most rewarding seasons as a coach because of the girls she was able to work with. These girls were not only truly nice girls, they also were quality tennis players who enjoyed learning the game and growing as tennis players.

Volleyball reached new heights with 108 players participating this fall. Five coaches combined to try to help develop the volleyball skills of these girls. Having a high number of volleyball players is a blessing and a curse. Obviously with this many girls out, there is a wide range of ability in the volleyball program at BCMS. Fitting all these girls into two gyms is a struggle to say the least. Between developing the upper level 'A' kids and making sure the girls on the 'B' teams got better in intramural games, our coaches did an outstanding job of making sure volleyball was a rewarding experience for the girls. The STMA Tournament proved a high point to the season as BCMS finished first or second in all levels.

Fall is a busy time of the year in any activities department. At BCMS a total of 461 students or about 36% of the enrollment participated in an activity. It is a great way to start the school year.